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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

The political year is almost at its deadeast; but, just as gardeners are getting their spring roots in, with an eye to the hyacinths and crocuses of March, so politicians are planting the ideas which they hope to see flower about that time. Several varieties of "reform" bulbs have been laid down; but as yet nobody seems to know whether soil or weather will be favourable. Mr. Bright's speeches have at least had the effect of a violent stirring up of the subject of reform; but he mixes with much that is popular much that is so generally distasteful, that he neutralises the natural influence of his abilities. The theme may be a little *passé* by this time; but we must say a few words on some of the notions of so remarkable a man.

"We have gained nothing by the Russian war." Well, we do not know yet all its results; but at least we have gained already the following points:—1. A temporary check, at all events, to Russian progress southward, through defeats of her armies, destruction of her fleets, and the capture of Sebastopol. This is the political kind of triumph at which all such wars aim, and a succession of which has given us the prestige in Europe on which our general progress and commerce a great deal depend. 2. A knowledge of our military deficiencies, which has already enabled us to make some military reforms, and will yet enable us to achieve greater ones. These are *fruitful* facts; for not only was the defeat of Russia one cause why the present Emperor has taken the line of internal reform rather than of foreign aggression, but the display which our army made, in spite of failures of system, and the energy with which army questions have been taken in hand by the country, have both tended to keep the French Emperor peacefully disposed. Of course we are not going to defend all the wars ever made by England, and which Mr. Bright lumps together. But at all events the Russian war was not an "aristocratic" one; so far from that, the country far and wide urged it upon statesmen who were notoriously inclined to avoid it as long as possible. The upper classes—which really means the rich people, noble or not—lost scores of their dearest children wherever blood was shed, and as for promotions, the havoc promoted dozens of the middle classes as well as their more prosperous comrades. Any army list, compared with an army list for January, 1854, will satisfy the curious reader on this point beyond dispute. We undertake to say that no war ever did so much for the mass of soldiers, who received an extent of practical sympathy and help far beyond what ever fell to the brave men who fought under Marlborough or Wellington.

There is a kind of inconsistency in Mr. Bright's view of the Russian war, as compared with his view of Reform, to which we beg his serious attention. If the masses were so helplessly wrong in so grave a matter as the war, is it quite wise to give them the undisputed ascendancy in the politics of the State? We should rather have expected so severe a denunciation of their blunders from one of those old aristocratic sages of antiquity whose maxims were that the many were bad, and who loved to describe them as the profane vulgar. The truth is, that the aristocracy of intellect or sect is even more haughty than that of race. The cruellest man who appeared in the

French Revolution was an actor who guillotined everybody he could find who had hissed him.

When Mr. Bright urges that the suffrage ought to be extended, he urges a proposition which few now-a-days care to dispute. The moral right of a five is as good as that of a ten-pounder; and many men have no suffrage who are much better judges of political questions than both. The difficulty is to see in the case of Mr. Bright why *he* in particular desires a very much wider voting body. If numbers, and numbers *only*, are to be considered, we fear that it will go hard with much that he respects. Take the case of a strike, and poll, say on the principle of universal suffrage, such towns as Preston, or the great colliery places, during a commercial crisis. At such times, the wisest and most experienced heads in the country are puzzled by

fittest to advise. Politics is the life of a whole nation viewed as one body. Let us have everything represented according to its value in our institutions—commerce and trade, land, education, aristocracy, or what not, according to their relative powers and values. This is fair. But it is not fair to say that A, on whom a few hundred people depend for employment, ought not to weigh more in a state than B, who represents and influences nobody but himself and his wife. Mr. Bright indeed implies that *he* would not go so far, but then he says things at other times which would justify other people in going even further.

Just at the time that an eminent man is paving the way for universal suffrage here, we are enjoying an opportunity of seeing its results in France. The French Government has turned its

impartial attention from coercing Portugal to prosecuting Montalembert. The crime of that distinguished writer is having expressed in print a generous respect for English institutions, mixed with a very temperate regret that such do not exist in his own country. For this he is to be punished, and punished *in the name of the people*, by a hypocrisy as base as that which makes the same Government support the Pope and tolerate the "Univers." What prevents this being resisted? The ascendancy of the principle of mere numbers, which classes a thinker with a vine-dresser, and makes all equal by making all insignificant. There is no nucleus for opposition. We may expect any crime of the kind from the same quarter, and it is a mistake to suppose that only the eminent, "the aristocrats," suffer. The republican workman is whisked off by the same power to perish in a swamp, and in the same name—that of his own brothers—the people. What is a unit out of thirty millions. They will not miss him, and what matter if he die? And thus it is, that after being deluded in the lump, a people gets persecuted in detail.

It is indeed a curious result of revolutionary policy that France is at this moment the most *re-actionary* Power in Europe. Prussia is inaugurating a liberal system of administration. Russia is busy emancipating her serfs. Piedmont is jogging along under a free constitution. England is all astir, if not with political, yet at least with social reforms and improvements. France is every way in the rear of them all, persecuting thought, restoring the slave trade, backing up the Papacy, bullying weak states, doing everything that the most advanced thinkers pronounce wrong—down even to fettering trade, hindering emigration, and reading blackguard novels.

This is a spectacle which, if it has one effect in teaching us to hasten all moderate and wise reforms undertaken in a sober spirit and kindly temper, ought equally to warn us against wholesale change and disturbance undertaken from enjoyment of antagonism as much as love of improvement.

We shall not, on the present occasion, repeat our general idea of the form which a measure of constitutional revision ought to take. There will be opportunities enough by and by. Meanwhile, this attitude of France, spoken of above, is infinitely the most important fact of the time, and will soon, we suspect, engross attention to the exclusion of those more harmless and pleasant inquiries broached at country "institutes" and "atheneums" by the somewhat milk-and-watery philanthropists of the age.



JOHN BRIGHT, ESQ., M.P.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

the position. Will the poor men who are suffering from it, and many of whom have never learned to read or write, be the fittest choosers of persons to remedy the difficulty? Will they then stick to their employers, who are their natural leaders, as the landholders are of the men under them? Or will they choose the Chartist orator—some man whose abilities would never have got him honest bread in any high sphere of professional and intellectual life? These are the dangers which attend the "numbers" principle. And after all, arithmetic is not the highest law of life. When people say that "two heads are better than one," they do not mean that two bad heads are better than a good one. In private life, a man picks his advisers; he does not seek many, he seeks those whom he thinks



JOHN BRIGHT.

MACKENZIE'S DICTIONARY OF UNIVERSAL BIOGRAPHY gives us the following memoir of Mr. Bright:—

John Bright was born on the 16th of November, 1811, at Greenbank, in the immediate vicinity of Rochdale, still the seat of the manufacturing operations of the firm in which he is a partner. His father, who died at an advanced age, and in possession of considerable wealth, six or seven years ago, had raised himself from the ranks to the position of an opulent master cotton-spinner, and enjoyed in his own locality a well-earned reputation for shrewdness and energy. Mr. Bright was the second of ten children, the eldest of whom died young, and in earlier years his own feeble health was a source of constant anxiety to his parents. He received his first education at a school in Rochdale, whence he was removed to one at Ackworth, in Yorkshire, supported by the Society of Friends, to which his parents belonged, and of which Mr. Bright himself is still ostensibly a member. After a further removal to York, his health being still found unsatisfactory, he was placed under the charge of a tutor at Newton-in-Bollard, and, invigorated by rambles upon its breezy uplands, he returned home to take a part in his father's manufacturing industry, and to be initiated into the mysteries of buying cotton, and selling cotton-yarn, on Manchester 'Change—operations which, in later years, he has allowed to devolve upon younger brothers.

Mr. Bright's first appearance as a politician dates from the local agitation which preceded and accompanied the Reform Bill of 1831-32. Rochdale was one of the populous boroughs, until then unrepresented, to which the Reform Bill proposed to assign the right to return a member to Parliament. Mr. Bright's voice was, of course, heard on the popular side, but then he was only a youth of twenty, and, beyond the fact that he did address his townsmen in favour of the Reform Bill, no information has been preserved of his first appearance in the political arena.

"The time was, however, at hand, when Mr. Bright was to become first locally, and then nationally, prominent. In 1835 he made a tour on the Continent and to Palestine. It was the year of Mr. Cobden's Continental travels, which resulted in the pamphlets by a 'Manchester Manufacturer,' and the first acquaintance formed by Mr. Cobden with the name of his future fellow-labourer—personally they did not then meet—was at Athens, which Mr. Bright had quitted before the arrival of Mr. Cobden. On his return home, Mr. Bright began to lecture at a literary institution in Rochdale, which he had helped to found. His first subjects were his recent experiences of travel, and thence, by an easy transition, he passed to lectures on subjects connected with industrialism and political economy. It was about this time, too, that he threw himself into one of those violent church-rate contests for which Rochdale had long been celebrated, and replaced the usual passive resistance of his sect by an active and energetic opposition.

"The name of 'John Bright' was now well known as that of a sturdy and combative Rochdale Radical, when, suddenly, a question arose which led to his exchanging a local for a general notoriety. The Manchester Anti-Corn-law Association was formed in the autumn of 1838, and Mr. Bright's name appears in the list of its first committee. Early in 1839 this purely local association became the famous Anti-Corn-law League; and in the course of the same year Mr. Cobden paid a missionary visit to Rochdale. It was on this occasion that the two Free-trade leaders first made each other's personal acquaintance, and Mr. Cobden was so struck by the force and fire of Mr. Bright's oratory, that he insisted on pressing him into the service of the League, of which Mr. Bright became, before long, a most successful and indispensable champion. Mr. Cobden's lucid and logical advocacy of Free-trade was supplemented by the much more vigorous and impassioned rhetoric of Mr. Bright. The calmer friends of the cause might be startled, and its enemies be shocked, by the personalities and all but revolutionary declamation of Mr. Bright. But the fiery tone of his addresses was well-suited to public and miscellaneous meetings. Mr. Bright was soon recognised as only second to Mr. Cobden in the effective advocacy of the objects of the League, while the more ardent spirits of the party predicted his eventual supremacy. The history of Mr. Bright's connection with the Anti-Corn-law League involves the history of the League itself, which does not fall to be written here. Suffice it to indicate, as prominent events of this section of Mr. Bright's career, his metropolitan exertions, in 1843, to secure the return of Mr. Patterson, the Free-trade candidate for the city of London, and his appearance at a great meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society, in Exeter Hall, during the course of 1844, when he advocated the application of Free-trade even to the sugar question, and opposed the imposition of a prohibitory or protective duty on slave-grown sugar.

"Mr. Bright first entered Parliament in 1843, two years after the return of Mr. Cobden for Stockport. In the spring of that year a vacancy occurred in the representation of Durham, and Lord Dunsannon was selected as the Conservative candidate. In accordance with the tactics of the League, to offer a Free-trade candidate whenever there was a vacancy, and whether success was probable or improbable, Colonel (now Major-General) Thompson was put forward as the Free-trade candidate, and Mr. Bright was despatched to Durham to advocate his claims and to forward his canvass. From some cause or other, Colonel Thompson withdrew from the contest at the eleventh hour. There was no time to lose; Mr. Bright was on the spot; and the day before the election he issued his address as a candidate. He was defeated by a majority of 101. The return of Lord Dunsannon, however, was petitioned against, and he was unseated for bribery. The contest was renewed, and in July, 1843, Mr. Bright was returned for Durham by a majority of 78. The spectacle of a Radical Quaker sitting for the cathedral and Conservative city of Durham was a strange one, and would seem marvellous even now, were it not understood that the then Marquis of Londonderry refused to throw his overwhelming influence into the scale of his natural ally, the Conservative candidate. Mr. Bright's first speech in the House of Commons was made towards the end of a session, and in a thin House, on the 7th of August, 1843. It was in support of a motion of Mr. Ewart's for the reduction of import duties, and its delivery betrayed a certain nervousness which often characterises Mr. Bright's parliamentary oratory, and which must surprise those who have only heard him speak to miscellaneous, excited, and altogether friendly audiences.

"From this period onward to the repeal of the Corn-laws, Mr. Bright was active in and out of Parliament; but both with the public as a whole, and with the House of Commons, Mr. Cobden was still the favourite. In his celebrated peroration, when proposing the repeal of the Corn-laws, the late Sir Robert Peel ascribed the whole glory of the Free-trade triumph to Mr. Cobden. The Bright testimonial, subscribed for after the dissolution of the Anti-Corn-law League, was very much inferior in amount to that raised for Mr. Cobden, although it furnished the recipient with an excellent library.

"Unconnected directly with the Free-trade movement, two items of Mr. Bright's House of Commons activity, in the Parliament of 1841-47, deserve to be noticed. One is the appointment procured by him, in 1845, of a Game-law Committee, which printed its evidence, without a report, in 1846; and an abridgment of the evidence, with an address by Mr. Bright to the Tenant Farmers of Great Britain, was published, at his expense, the same year. The other was the appointment, also at his instance, of a Select Committee on the cotton cultivation of India; its labours issued in a huge blue-book, frequently referred to in discussions on this interesting question. The general election of 1847, which followed the repeal of the Corn-laws, and the overthrow of the Peel Ministry, placed Mr. Bright in a higher position than any he had yet aspired to. Mr. Mark Phillips retired from the representation of Manchester, and the friends of Mr. Bright wished to see him the colleague of Mr. Milner Gibson in the representation of that important constituency. The Liberal party of Manchester was divided. The old Whigs disliked Mr. Bright's Radicalism, and wished to throw off the thralldom of the League, the local leaders of which were favourable to the claims of Mr. Bright. Mr. Cobden was invited to stand, but he refused. Lord Lincoln (now Duke of Newcastle) was then persuaded to become a candidate, but, dissatisfied with his chances of success, he

withdrew, after his committee had been formed, and Mr. Bright was returned without opposition.

"The ensuing six years of Mr. Bright's life, public and parliamentary, were active and busy. 'Out of doors,' he co-operated no longer as a subordinate, but as an equal with Mr. Cobden, in various agitations for financial and Parliamentary Reform, but not with the marked success which had attended the Free-trade movement. In Parliament, Mr. Bright spoke with increasing frequency, and succeeded gradually in the difficult enterprise which is termed 'gaining the ear of the House.' It was remarked that, if still narrow in his tone, his scope was wider. Besides urging the ordinary views of a Radical politician, he produced a marked effect by his treatment of the Irish and Indian questions in 1848 and 1850. After the formation of the first Derby Ministry, and the consequent dissolution of Parliament, his return for Manchester was opposed, but the cause of Free-trade was thought to be once more in danger, and moderate Liberals themselves, though disagreeing with many of his views, refused to countenance the attempt to oust him from the representation of Manchester at such a crisis. After a contest, he was again returned by a large majority. His violent opposition to the Russian war, however, united against him a majority of his constituents, many of whom, moreover, were perhaps still influenced by a jealousy of the local power of the Anti-Corn-law League, which, though nominally dissolved, still kept up in Manchester a considerable organisation. Soon after the formation of Lord Palmerston's Ministry, Mr. Bright was compelled, by ill-health, to withdraw from attendance in Parliament, and to seek repose and change of scene on the Continent. The general election of 1857 found him abroad, and, in his absence, Manchester rejected him as its representative. On the death of Mr. Muntz, he was elected, in August, 1857, one of the members for Birmingham, and has since resumed his parliamentary duties. In 1847 Mr. Bright married a second time, a daughter of Mr. Leatham, of Wakefield, by whom he has several children, in addition to one by his first marriage."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE decrees organising the new administration for Algeria are published in the "Moniteur." They contain four principal points. The first refers to the promulgation of the laws, which is to proceed from the new Colonial Ministry at Paris. The second regulates the powers of the Algerine prefects, which are far more extensive than those of the prefects in France. The third, and most interesting, is the establishment of general councils in the provinces, in which even the native element will find representation. They are, however, to be nominated, not elected. The names of their presidents are already published. The fourth refers to the budget. There is to be a separate one for each of the three provinces—Algiers, Oran, and Constantine.

The "Morning Post" recently stated that the French Government had resolved to put an end to the experiment of free emigration to or from Africa. The "Pays" says there is no truth in the report.

M. Valera de la Paniega, brother of the Duchess de Malakoff, has been appointed an *attaché* of the Spanish embassy at Paris.

SPAIN.

IT is stated that on the 21st ult. all the monthly liabilities of Spain had been paid up, leaving 2,000,000 of dollars in the treasury. Such a state of things had not been seen for some years in that country. It is, perhaps, this palmy condition of the public funds that has given strength to a belief, that the Minister of Finance had been understood to have expressed a strong opinion with reference to the foreign creditors, and to be determined, as soon as circumstances will permit and the financial state of the country will allow, to do justice to the holders of Spanish coupons.

A part of the class of conscripts for 1858 is called out to replace the men sent to Cuba. The Government is making great preparations against Mexico.

PRUSSIA.

THE Prussian Minister of the Interior has issued a significant circular to the local authorities on the coming elections. The document states that the Government attaches great importance to the event, and that it is the duty of the functionaries who may participate in them, directly or indirectly, to endeavour to cause men to be elected who are capable of tried fidelity, and acquainted with public affairs. It declares, however, that they must not exercise any constraint over the electors, threatening to withdraw from them any advantages which they possess. In particular they must abstain from employing the police. But even under these conditions, says the circular, a vast field remains open to the activity of functionaries, and in particular of sub-prefects, since the latter, in concert with the influential men of their districts, on whose co-operation they may reckon, can prepare the elections in preliminary meetings, cause able men to be chosen candidates, and energetically oppose all bad tendencies. Functionaries must not, the circular declares, be prevented from becoming candidates, inasmuch as that would deprive the Chamber of experienced business men; but on the other hand only functionaries who are determined to support the Government must be chosen. Telegrams from Berlin state that Prince de Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen is entrusted with the formation of a new Cabinet. The Prince is a member of the Liberal party.

The police authorities of Leipzig have advertised the loss of the Queen of Prussia's portfolio, containing money, jewels, and certain writings. Three hundred dollars reward are offered for the recovery, but up to the present moment it has not been found. The presumption of course is, that it has been stolen for the sake of the writings.

RUSSIA.

THE "Invalide Russe" announces the subjection to Russia of the whole mountainous region extending between the sources of the Terek and the valley of Charo-Argoune.

The emancipation of the serfs is to be extended to those who are not engaged in agricultural pursuits. The attention of the Government is particularly directed to those who are employed in the mines belonging to private individuals; their condition is described as very miserable.

ITALY.

SEVERAL soldiers of the Piedmontese army have been expelled on suspicion of being affiliated to a secret society. At the same time we hear that the Grand Duke of Tuscany is himself re-organising a secret political society, called "San Ferdinando," as a countermeasure to all Liberal or revolutionary conspiracies.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

THE Sultan has returned to office his relative Mehemed Ali, whom a few weeks ago he stigmatised in a public audience as a traitor. Ali Ghalib Pacha, the Sultan's son-in-law, whom he addressed at the same time as the most abandoned of men, was also retaken in favour; but he has been drowned in the Bosphorus. He was on board a small vessel, which was broken to pieces through collision with a steamer. The report in Constantinople was that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe's influence restored the disgraced ministers to a place in the State.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe laid the foundation of the "Memorial Church" at Constantinople before he embarked in the *Caradoc* for England. The steamer ran ashore near Smyrna. The passengers and crew were saved.

The insurrection in Bosnia has been suppressed by the Pacha's troops, which reached that place in great numbers. More than a thousand Christian refugees are in the Austrian territory.

Advices from Servia state that the ministerial crisis still continues, no persons being found willing to accept the burden of office. The budget for 1859 gives a deficit of 50,000 ducats.

AMERICA.

THE "New York Herald" has "exclusive" information that the British Government intends to submerge a cable next year on its own account.

The yellow fever is on the increase in New Orleans.

Rivas, ex-President of Nicaragua, has published a letter, stating that he did not sign the celebrated manifesto of Martinez and Mora, asking France, England, and Sardinia, to establish a protectorate over the Central States.

Advices from Santa Fé report another battle with the Indians, and their defeat by the United States troops. The Apaches were again making an expedition into Sonora, and the Mexicans were preparing a large army to resist them.

CHINA.

THE news from China is of little importance. Admiral Seymour has removed the embargo to Canton, paid Peh-qui a visit at his Yamen in the city, and, in return, been visited by Peh-qui on board his Majesty's steam-ship *Hornet*, Commander Lord Guildford, lying off the river, in the Dutch Folly. This was the first time Peh-qui ever stood on the deck of an English ship.

Notwithstanding the proclamations by high officials, the people still remain on their homesteads, and exhibit no hurry to return to their avocations at Canton, Macao, or Hong-Kong. "Indeed," says the "Overland Friend of China," "we shall not be surprised to find Hwangtungsoan's party resisting the Emperor's, and so forcing us to the unwished-for duty of taking the province of Canton under our own tectorate. The Earl of Elgin's patience and peace-making tendencies will, at this conjuncture, stand him in good stead."

Various squadrons of the fleet have been engaged in looking up the pirates on the China coast. They seem to have been highly successful: hosts of junks were destroyed, and hordes of sea-ruffians killed or dislodged.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

BRITISH authority has been finally established supreme in Caffraria. The chiefs have lost the power which they so grossly abused, and the people in starving thousands have been received into the bosom of the colony. The number thus admitted and located, not in masses, but diffused, individually or in families, among the industrious colonists, exceeds 30,000.

Three Caffres, charged with the murder of the Rev. Mr. Wilson, English Church Minister in British Caffraria, have been found guilty, and condemned to death.

Small-pox largely prevailed at the Cape at the date of last advice.

The contract for the first railway, fifty miles in length, from Cape Town to Wellington, has been completed; and preparations are in progress for commencing the great breakwater or harbour in Table Bay.

AUSTRALIA.

NEW gold-fields have been discovered at Port Curtis, north of Sydney. They are very rich.

The New South Wales Assembly has voted a grant of £50,000 per annum for ten years towards the establishment of a mail service to Panama.

The Adelaide Parliament was opened on the 27th of August.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

THE reported attack on the rebels at Gogra is confirmed. About a thousand of the enemy were killed. The artillery fire did great execution among the fugitives, and also sunk two boats laden with the enemy. Two of the rebel leaders are reported to be among the slain. The British loss not severe. Several other affairs are reported as having taken place in Oude, in all of which the rebels were routed with great slaughter.

The remnant of the Gwalior rebels was still untaught. Under Tantia Toppe, they had retreated from Soronge upon Esanghur; and the very morning of the day on which Brigadier Smith came up to that place they had evacuated it, with guns and elephants, and made for Chunderree. On the 2nd of October they made themselves master of it; and there they remained when the mail left. A combined movement was in preparation to hem them in.

The campaign had not yet commenced, but Lord Clyde had left Allahabad for Cawnpore, *en route* for Lucknow; meanwhile the rebels, stated to be still in great numbers, were ravaging the country, and sorely oppressing the inhabitants wherever our troops are not posted. The Shahabad rebels, 15,000 strong according to native reports, were fortifying themselves in Jugdespore. Oomer Singh had been proclaimed King of Shahabad. Great preparations were made throughout India to celebrate the change in the Government with illuminations and fireworks. "The order," says the "Times" correspondent, "is well judged, as no amount of proclamations would convince a people who cannot read that the Company's raj has ended, and the alteration of the coinage and other visible signs of a change of dynasty will require time. Besides, the show itself is popular." Pending the publication of the Imperial proclamation, the mutiny at Moositan had been occupying attention in Calcutta. According to the Calcutta view of the matter, the catastrophe will put a stop to the re-arming mania which had threatened to place some 15,000 traitors under arms.

Details of the mortality among the troops, women, and children, at Dumdum are given, showing a death-rate of 20 per cent. per annum, on the average strength, or about six times the proper rate.

Orders have been issued by the Government that all the Jaigheers of the ex-King of Delhi are to be annexed to the British dominions, and new settlements are to be made.

Instructions have been issued by Government that all ordinary personal property or live stock belonging to the rebels should be sold, and the actual price entered in the column of estimated value. Valuable property, such as jewels, will be retained pending the orders of Government.

THE SURRENDER OF THE CHARLES ET GEORGES.

THE note in which the Portuguese Government expressed its resignation to the demands of France is worthy of record. It ran as follows:—

"1. The Portuguese Government, being unable to resist the violence of France, will deliver up the vessel.

"2. The French Government, having rejected the arbitration of a third Power on the question of right, the Portuguese Government also rejects arbitration on the question of indemnity.

"3. Let the French Government present the claim for the indemnity, and it will be promptly paid."

The Portuguese journals express very strong sentiments on the matter, and especially of the part England has played in it. The "Journal de Commerce" says:—

"The wrong is now consummated, and Portugal has yielded to force; but she is not alone; by her side yields a powerful nation and a generous people. England, which was the leader in the abolition of the slave-trade, did not care to maintain the leader she had taken; she did not wish to maintain the justice of the cause of her ally, who has made so many sacrifices to comply loyally with the terms of the treaty which she ratified with her—a treaty whose end is for the best interests of Christianity and civilisation. England has beheld passively this insult to her dignity and honour. England has abandoned the cause of right; the lion has crouched before the eagle, who a second time wishes to plunge her talons into Portugal. Does the English Government imagine that in the balance of public opinion this criminal indifference will not in future weigh against her? The eagle begins his flight without opposition, but afterwards it may be too late to drive him back to his eyrie. We, however, bend our neck to this greatest violence which a strong Power can practise upon a weak one, and we declare that treaties and justice in international relations are a pure farce. Let all our treaties and conventions be burnt in public, and once for all let it be declared that law is the power of the strongest arm."

News has been received in Paris of the seizure of another French African emigrant ship, by the Portuguese, on the east coast of Africa. In this case, however, it appears that the ship was subsequently released. The captain and a large part of the crew of a third French ship, which was wrecked on the same coast, have been murdered by the natives.

LORD ELGIN IN JAPAN.

Lord Elgin returned to Shanghai on the 2nd of September, after a sojourn of a month. This short interval, however, has sufficed to enable him to conclude a treaty with Japan of great commercial importance, as well as of high historical interest and political significance. The causes have conspired to produce this result. The contact which they were constantly brought with both English and Russians during the late war, the expedition of Commodore Perry, and the establishment at Simoda of an American Consul, together with the operations of Mr. Harris (the gentleman who filled this post), have operated largely in preparing the Japanese mind for the treaty, which their own sound common sense and quickness of observation rendered them inevitable. It was not, however, until the intelligence reached Jeddo of the treaty of Tien-tsin, accompanied by an exaggerated report of the naval force with which the allies intended to invade Japan, that the Plenipotentiaries appointed to treat with Mr. Harris (the American consul) put their signature to the treaty, which had already been for some months before them. It is not to be supposed, however, that the Japanese Government succumbed feebly to the pressure from without. So far from such being the case, Lord Elgin found his arrival at Jeddo found the late Liberal Government, with whom the Americans had treated, had been turned out of office only two or three days previously; and it was evident that, so far from yielding to further pressure, there was a strong disposition manifested on the part of the hereditary nobility to break rather than bend further.

However, Lord Elgin succeeded in concluding a treaty very advantageous to this country. The American treaty, signed about three years previously, forms, to a great extent, the base of that negotiated by the British Plenipotentiary. It provides for a resident Minister at Jeddo; for the opening of the ports of Kanagawa (which has been called the Whampoa of Jeddo), of Nagasaki, and of Hakodadi, within the term of one year from the date of signature. At later periods, a port on the west coast, and another on the east coast, called Higo, which is the port of Oosaka, are to be opened to the commerce of the West, while the principal cities of Jeddo and Oosaka are to be thrown open to trade. For the present, Europeans, with the exception of the Minister at Jeddo, are not allowed to travel in the interior. The peculiar internal organisation of the country, which is divided by 300 feudal princes into separate and almost independent principalities, will account for this restriction.

The commercial arrangements are on the most liberal possible scale. All exports, with the exception of a few prohibited articles, are subject to a duty of 5 per cent. Imports are charged with a duty of 20 per cent.; but as there are no tonnage or other dues, this does not seem an unreasonable amount. A list of articles on which an import duty of only 10 per cent. is charged, is excepted from the general provision, and one of the most important concessions obtained by Lord Elgin was the insertion in this latter list of cotton and woollen goods. By another important provision, and one which, we believe, is not contained in the American treaty, it is agreed that the tariff shall be subject to revision at the end of five years. The Russian treaty, we are told, differs in no material point from the American.

Having given the terms of the treaty, we append an account of Lord Elgin's journey and reception, communicated by a correspondent of the "Times."

"On the 3rd of August her Majesty's ships *Furious*, *Retribution*, *Lee* (gunboat), and steam-yacht *Emperor*, destined as a present for his Majesty the Yeeoon of Japan, entered the port of Nagasaki, and steaming past the point at which a line of junks have hitherto been moored to bar the ingress of foreign ships, cast anchor immediately off the city and Dutch factory of Decima. On the following day the *Calcutta*, having on board the Admiral, accompanied by the *Inflexible*, joined the squadron.

"Immediately on the Admiral's arrival, it became necessary to decide upon the steps which should be taken for the presentation of the yacht. The distance of Nagasaki from the capital of the empire, and the comparative insignificance of the principal authority, rendered it very undesirable that so important an act should be performed there. As Mr. Ward, who commanded the yacht, had been instructed to deliver it over if possible at Jeddo, it was therefore determined that he should proceed at once to that place. Lord Elgin determined, by accompanying the yacht, to avail himself of the opportunity which would thus be presented of gaining access to the capital.

"No sooner was it decided that the presentation of the yacht should take place at Jeddo, than the *Furious*, *Retribution*, *Lee*, and *Emperor* started for Simoda. Heavy gales obliged all four ships to run in for shelter at the bay of Nagasaki, and it was not until the morning of the 10th that they sighted the lofty volcanic mountain of Fusi-yama. Simoda is about 80 miles from the city of Jeddo, situate at the extreme point of the promontory which forms one side of the capacious bay, or rather gulf, at the head of which the capital is placed. Up this bay the squadron proceeded, with a fair wind, on the morning of the 12th, and passing through the straits of Uraga, the left shore of which is feathered with rich verdure and indented with little bays, reached a point opposite the Port of Kanagawa, beyond which no foreign ships had ever ventured, and where the Russian squadron could then be discerned at anchor. Captain Osborn, however, professing his readiness to explore the unknown waters at the head of the bay, and to approach as near the city as possible, Lord Elgin seemed determined not to lose an opportunity of establishing a precedent likely to be so important in our future intercourse with Japan, and to the astonishment of both Russians and Japanese, the British ships deliberately passed the sacred limit without communicating with the shore, and a few minutes after were cautiously feeling their way round a long spit of land which runs far out into the bay, and offers some danger to the navigator. An instinct for deep water must have guided the ships along the channel, which was afterwards found to be sufficiently narrow and tortuous, but, at last, all doubts as to the feasibility of the enterprise were removed by the appearance of several large, square-rigged Japanese vessels at anchor, the draught of water of which was a guarantee for our own. Behind these, rose gradually out of the waters of the bay, a line of insulated forts, which marked the defences of Jeddo, while an extensive suburb, running along the western shore, formed a continuous street as far as the eye could reach. The ships ultimately anchored in three fathoms of water, about a mile and a-half from this suburb, and the same distance from the fine island-forts above mentioned, which are situated on a sandbank, the intervening channels being always covered with water. About a mile beyond these forts, and parallel to them, lay the main body of the city. The arrival of the British squadron in waters which the Japanese had sedulously represented as being too shallow to admit of the approach of large ships, filled them with dismay and astonishment; boats followed each other, with officials of ascending degrees of rank, to beg them to return to Kanagawa; and finally urgent representations were made to the Ambassador on the subject. The pleas generally put forward were amusing and characteristic;—first, it was said the anchorage was dangerous, but the presence of their own squadron was referred to as an evidence to the contrary; then that it would be impossible to procure and send off supplies, but it was protested that if necessary we could do without these. The merits and comforts of Kanagawa were expatiated on in vain; the paramount duty was the delivery of the yacht at Jeddo, and to deliver the yacht there it was necessary to remain at the present anchorage. No sooner was this settled, than the Japanese in their usual way became perfectly reconciled to the arrangement, sent off supplies with great willingness, and began to prepare a residence on shore for Lord Elgin and his Staff. It appeared that Count Puttine had been delayed for ten days negotiating on this subject at Kanagawa, and only succeeded in taking up his residence at Jeddo on the same day that our squadron cast anchor before the town. He had made the journey overland from Kanagawa, a distance of eighteen miles.

"The landing of a British Ambassador in state at the capital of the Empire of Japan, was only in keeping with the act of unparalleled

audacity which had already been committed in anchoring British ships within the sacred limits of its harbour. Japanese officials were sent off to superintend the operations, but they little expected to make the return voyage in one of her Majesty's sunboats, with thirteen ships' boats in tow, amid the thunder of salutes, the inspiring strains of a naval band, and the flutter of hundreds of flags with which the ships were dressed. The band struck up "God Save the Queen," as Lord Elgin ascended the steps of the official landing place near the centre of the city, and was received and put into his chair by sundry two-sworded personages; the rest of the mission, together with some officers of the squadron, following on horseback. The crowd which for upwards of a mile lined the streets leading to the building fixed on as the residence of the Embassy was dense in the extreme; the procession was preceded by policemen in harlequin costume, jingling huge iron rods of office, hung with heavy clanging rings, to warn the crowd away. Ropes were stretched across the cross streets, down which masses of the people rushed, attracted by the novel sight: while every few hundred yards were gates partitioning off the different wards, which were severally closed immediately on the passing of the procession, thus hopelessly barring the further progress of the old crowd, who strained anxiously through the bars, and envied the persons composing the rapidly-forming nucleus.

"During Lord Elgin's stay of eight days on shore nearly all the officers of the squadron had an opportunity of paying him a visit. His residence was a portion of a temple situated upon the outskirts of what was known as the Princes' Quarter—in other words, it was the Knights-bridge of Jeddo. In front of it was a street which continued for ten miles, as closely packed with houses and as densely crowded with people as it is from Hyde Park Corner to Mile End. At the back of it stretched a wide and somewhat dreary aristocratic quarter, containing the residences of 300 hereditary princes, each a petty sovereign in his own right, many of them with half-a-dozen town-houses, and some of them able to accommodate in these same mansions 10,000 retainers. Passing through the spacious and silent (except where a party of English were traversing their streets, we arrive at the outer moat of the castle; crossing it, we are still in the Princes' Quarter, but are astounded as we reach its further limits, at the scene which now bursts upon us—a magnificent moat, seventy or eighty yards broad, faced with a smooth green escarpment as many feet in height, above which runs a massive wall composed of stones Cyclopian in their dimensions. This is crowned, in its turn, by a lofty palisade. Towering above all, the spreading arms of giant cedars proudly display themselves, and denote that within the Imperial precincts the picturesque is not forgotten. From the highest point of the fortifications in rear of the castle a panoramic view is obtained of the vast city with its two million and a-half inhabitants, and an area equal to, if not greater than, that of London. The castle alone is computed to be capable of containing 10,000 souls.

"But the party on shore did not confine itself to exploring the city alone; excursions of ten miles into the country were made in two different directions, and but one opinion prevailed with respect to the extraordinary evidences of civilisation which met the eye in every direction. Every cottage, temple, and tea-house was surrounded by gardens laid out with exquisite taste, and the most elaborate neatness was skilfully blended with grandeur of design. The natural features of the country were admirably taken advantage of, and a long ride was certain to be rewarded by a romantic scene, where a tea-house was picturesquely perched over a waterfall, or a temple reared its carved gables amid groves of ancient cedars. The tea-house is a natural characteristic of Japan. The traveller, wearied with the moonday heat, need never be at a loss to find rest and refreshment; stretched upon the softest and cleanest of matting, imbibing the most delicately flavoured tea, inhaling through a short pipe the fragrant tobacco of Japan, he resigns himself to the ministrations of a bevy of fair damsels, who glide rapidly and noiselessly about, the most zealous and skilful of attendants. In their personal cleanliness the Japanese present a marked contrast to the Chinese; no deformed objects meet the eye in the crowded streets; cutaneous diseases seem almost unknown. In Nagasaki, towards evening, a large portion of the male and female population might be seen innocently "tubbing" at the corners of the streets. In Jeddo they frequent large bathing establishments, the door of which is open to the passer-by, and presents a curious spectacle, more especially if the inmates of both sexes ingeniously rush to it to gaze at him as he rides blushing past.

"In its climate, its fertility, and its picturesque beauty, Japan is not equalled by any country on the face of the globe; while, as if to harmonise with its surpassing natural endowments, it is peopled by a race whose qualities are of the most amiable and winning description, and whose material prosperity has been so equalised as to ensure happiness and contentment to all classes. We never saw two Japanese quarrel, and beggars have yet to be introduced with other luxuries of Western civilisation. But no one can doubt who has visited the two countries that the Chinaman will still be navigating the canals of his country in the crazy old junks of his ancestors when the Japanese is skimming along his rivers in high-pressure steamers, or flying across the country behind a locomotive."

We have yet to discover what the exports of Japan may be beyond camphor, wax, and copper; but, from a consideration of the natural tendencies and "go ahead" disposition of the people, there can be little doubt that a market will at some future day exist in these islands for the produce and manufactures of the West of sufficient magnitude and importance to secure for them a high place in the list of Great Britain's customers.

THE MORTARA CASE.—A despatch has been received this morning by the Papal Nuncio in Paris, informing him that the Pope has addressed a "memorial" to all the European courts, setting forth the facts of the Mortara business, as represented from a Holy Inquisition point of view, and stating it to be his Holiness's deliberate conclusion that, as the child has received the grace of baptism, no authority, even of the Pope himself, can be sufficient to neutralise its effects—ergo, the child must still be withheld from his mother and father in order to receive a Christian education.

ANOTHER FRENCH MIRACLE.—A poor woman, forty years of age, living at Chartres in Champagne, and who seems never to have heard of the marvellous pills, lotions, and elixirs, which perform so many cures in England, inasmuch as she has suffered for eighteen years from paralysis and loss of voice—this poor woman, being in the church of Chartres and devoutly listening to mass, suddenly saw a figure of a venerable old man, with a long beard. Around the apparition was a shining light, brighter than that of the sun at noonday. No sooner had the woman gazed upon the old man in the midst of the shining light, than she felt cured. Indeed, she said so in a loud voice, heard all over the sacred building, and, putting down the crutches she had not quitted for eighteen years, walked erect to the altar. She has continued in perfect health ever since. No doubt, therefore, of the genuineness of the cure can be permitted. The abandoned crutches are now hung up in the church as evidences of the miracle which has been performed.

MURDER BY A PRIEST.—The arch-priest of Giulianello, a town near Velletri, has been arrested for murdering a boy under circumstances of the most refined cruelty. The priest had been robbed of a sum of money, and suspecting the author of the theft to be a shoemaker, he inveigled the shoemaker's son into his house, bound him, and shut him up in the cellar, and then commenced a series of tortures upon him with a view of making him reveal where his father had concealed the stolen money. As the boy really knew nothing about the matter, he could tell nothing, and he finally succumbed under the inflictions of the arch-priest; and after much research, suspicions were aroused, and his body was found in the cellar with thirty-six wounds upon it.

ADRIET.—As a fisherman, of Cancale (Ille-et-Villaine), was going out to dredge oysters, near the Chaussy Isles, he saw at the distance of about two miles a small boat, which appeared to be abandoned. He immediately went to it, and to his surprise found two little children lying in the bottom, both exhausted with fatigue and hunger, and one fast asleep. He took the children into his own vessel, wrapped them up in his great-coat, and gave them food. He then questioned them, and they stated that they belonged to Granville, and that, two days before, they had got into the boat to play, but that it had drifted out to sea, and that having only one oar, they had been unable to direct it. He conveyed the children to Granville, and restored them to their parents, who thought they were lost.

M. DE MONTALEMBERT IN TROUBLE.

THE French Government has seized the "Correspondant" on account of an article by Count de Montalembert, on England and her Empire in India. The article had already attracted great attention, both in England and France, before the Emperor resolved on seizing the journal, and on prosecuting the Count and his publisher, a proceeding by which absolutism will gain nothing. A few sentences extracted from the article will give our readers a fair idea of its general tenor. The Count, while "giving vent to the just indignation so properly excited by the excessive severity of the punishments which the English inflict on the conquered insurgents and prisoners," pays some very high compliments to our free institutions, drawing very unfavourable comparisons with France. He says:—

"When my ears are dinned sometimes with the buzz of the ante-chamber chroniclers, sometimes with the clamour of fanatics who believe themselves to be our masters, and of hypocrites who fancy us their dupes; when I feel stifled beneath the weight of an atmosphere loaded with servile and corrupted effluvia, I hasten away to breathe a purer air, and take a life-bath in free England. The last time I gave myself this consolation, chance sorted me well; I alighted in the very midst of one of those great and glorious contests where all the resources of intelligence, and all the movements of a great people's conscience, play their part; where the greatest problems that can agitate a nation no longer in tutelage are proposed for solution in the broad face of day, by the agency of powerful intellects; where men and things, parties and individuals, orators and writers, the depositaries of power and the organs of opinion, are called upon to reproduce in the heart of a new Rome the picture once traced by a Roman, and still inspired with emotions of the Forum:—*Curare ingenio, contendere nobilitate, nocere atque dies niti prestante labore, ad summum emergere opes reumpere potiri.*" At these words I see from this distance how certain brows become overcast, and how that repugnance is depicted on them with which the followers of the fashion of the day are animated towards everything having the semblance of a souvenir, or a regret for a past political life."

In another passage, after attending a parliamentary debate on India, he says:—

"I came forth from this august spectacle full of emotion, as might any man who looks to a Government as something above a laquey's waiting-room, and who seeks in a civilised nation something better than a flock of sheep only fit for the shears, or to be led to nibble in silence under the shadow of an enervating security."

Here we have French and English policy contrasted:—
"It would be the acme of unreason and injustice were we to regard England as the only guilty nation, or as the guiltiest among the nations of the earth. Her policy is neither more egotistical nor more immoral than that of other great States of ancient and modern history. I believe it would even be possible to prove a thesis just the reverse. It is not charity, but well-ordered justice, that begins at home, and upon this ground no French publicist has a right to fall foul of England's policy before he has stated his opinion of the crimes committed by French policy during the Revolution and the Empire, and not such as its adversaries represent it, but such as its apologists describe it—M. Thiers, for instance. You may search among the most suspected dark corners of English diplomacy, but in vain, for you will find nothing there to resemble, even remotely, the destruction of the Republic of Venice or the murderous ambushes at Bayona."

Then contrasting the colonial policy of England in both hemispheres with that of Spain, M. de Montalembert says:—

"Does not history cry out to her with a voice of thunder—Cain, what hast thou done with thy brother? What hast thou done with the inheritance of Columbus confided to thy care? What has Portugal done with the rich reversion of Albuquerque? Go gauge the depth of her decrepitude at Goa! You will there find what are the final fruits of absolute government in the colonies as well as in the respective mother countries."

All throughout the Count belabours the ignoble scribbles "who interlard visions of the Virgin with scurrilous invectives against the grandeur of Great Britain." And, "returning to France," says he, "I find in 'L'Univers,' 23rd of May, 1858, Parliamentary government styled a farce, with scenic decorations. Happy country and happy clergy, whose organ gives such sound information in such decorous phraseology!"

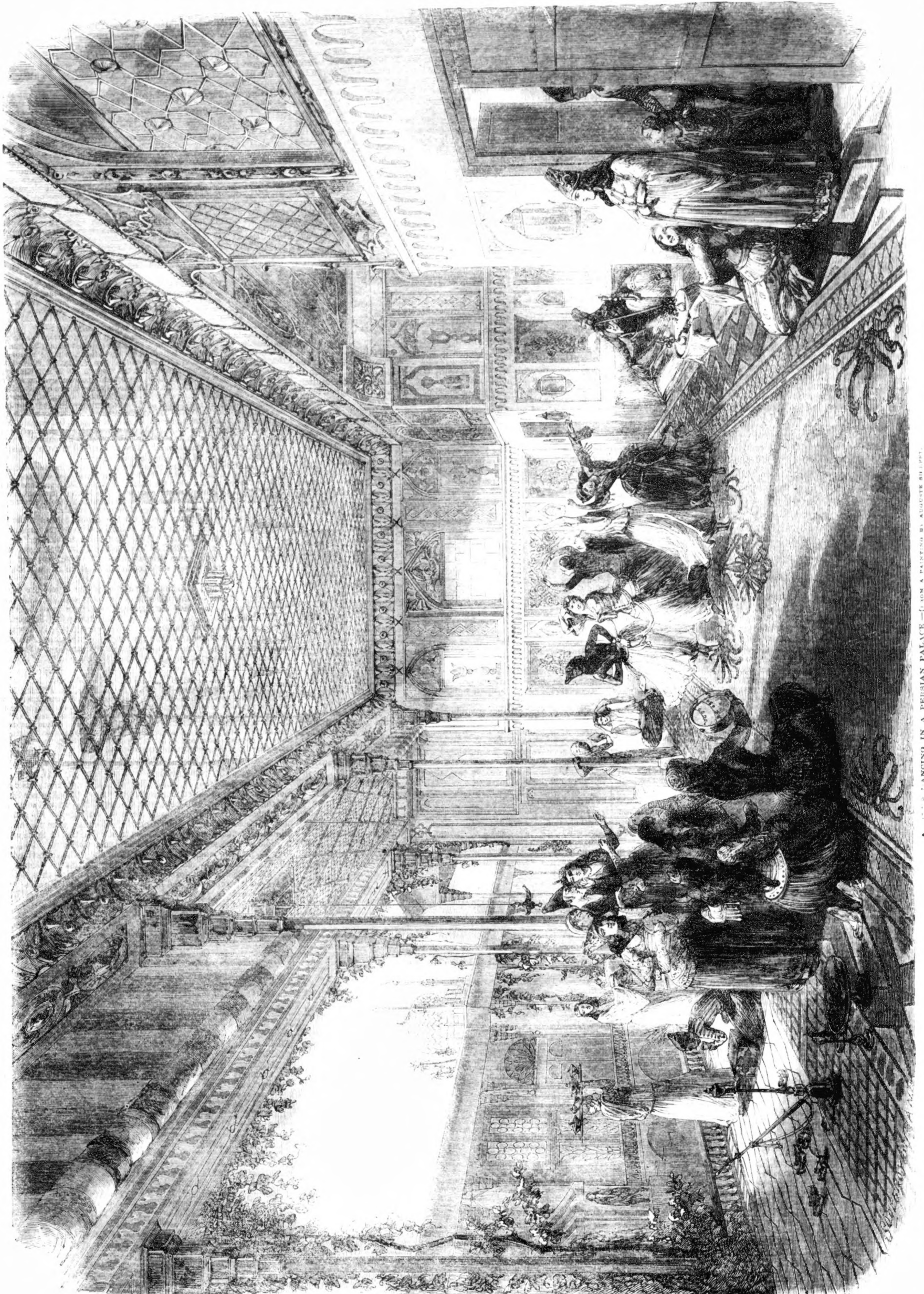
The editor of the journal and the author of the article are accused:—
1. Of an attack on the principle of universal suffrage, and on the rights and authority which the Emperor holds from the constitution;
2. Of an attack upon the respect due to the laws;
3. Of exciting to hatred and contempt of the Emperor's Government;
4. Of having endeavoured to disturb the public peace by exciting the citizens to mutual hatred or contempt; crimes provided against and punished by the articles 1, 4, and 7 of the decree of August 11, 1848, by 1 and 3 of the law of July 27, 1849.

A PRIESTLY MURDERER.—In a church at Mora, near Santa Fe, the parish rector, (an abbé from France), officiating in the communion service, thought the wine tasted strangely; and beckoned to the attending acolyte, asking him whether there was not some mistake. The youth put to his lips the wine remaining on the credence table, and in an hour afterwards the French clergyman was a corpse, the boy dying almost immediately after. The perpetrator of this incredible murder, belongs "to the cloth," it appears; and his provocation was jealousy!

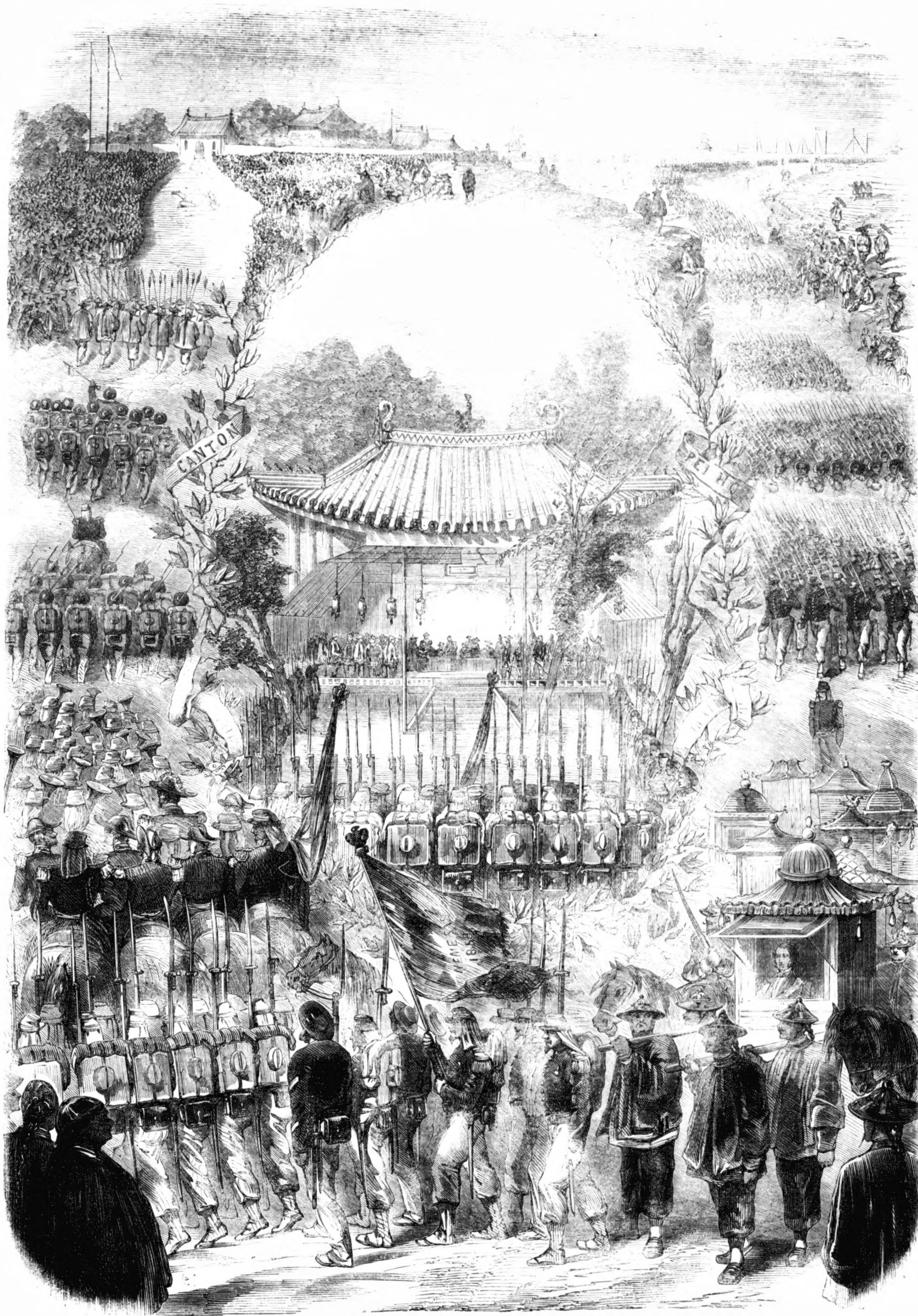
ALMEHS DANCING IN A PERSIAN PALACE.

WITH the exception of Horace Vernet, few living artists has covered more canvas and produced more striking pictures than Auguste Shoefft, an Hungarian artist, who spent several years in Persia and India, where he painted an interesting series of pictures illustrative of life and manners in those countries. Some of these pictures were recently exhibited in London, and we believe the most important of those relating to India will be purchased by the East India Company, who propose adding a picture gallery to their new museum. The engraving on the following page, from Mr. Shoefft's picture of Almehs Dancing, was exhibited at the French Exhibition of last year, and is thus described by a French author, who had long resided in Persia. He says: "This painting recalls to my memory many pleasing recollections of Persian life. I have often witnessed the scene which Mr. Shoefft has here so faithfully represented. I have even spent many pleasant hours in the very apartment he has pictured with such wonderful fidelity. I recognise faces once familiar to me, and while gazing at the picture can fancy myself again in Teheran. The apartment represented is in the palace of one of the most enlightened noblemen of Persia. It looks into the court-yard—a complete rose garden; from the centre of which a fountain is constantly throwing up its waters, which, carried by the breeze, alights upon the numerous creeping plants which climb along the balcony, and which send forth from their thousands of delicate flowers the sweetest perfumes. The ceiling is composed of plate-glass, and the cornice, which is boldly carved, is painted and gilded in the most elaborate manner. The walls are divided into panels, some of which are highly ornamented with arabesques in red, green, and gold, while others are covered with rude paintings of hunting scenes, flowers, and quotations from the poets. The alcove in which the nobleman is seated enjoying his narghilé is that portion of the apartment occupied by the family and the guests during any entertainment, and upon the walls of it are some very elaborate artistic productions. The floor, which is composed of inlaid tiles, is always covered with carpet, such as the looms of Persia can alone produce. The exterior of many of the finest residences in Teheran have a very dismal appearance; but there is scarcely one that has not some few apartments which blaze with splendour."

In Persia, as in other Eastern countries, it is not customary for the invited guests to dance for their own amusement. The host engages professional dancers and singers to entertain his friends, and many of them are paid larger fees than some of the most celebrated professionals of Europe. The costume of the Almehs is very graceful. It generally consists of a loose muslin vest, a pair of wide silk trousers, a short skirt, and a velvet jacket embroidered with gold; a muslin or silk scarf completes the dress. The latter they wave about in the most graceful manner during the excitement of the dance, to which they seem to give their heart and soul, and which they will sometimes continue till they are so exhausted that they have to be removed by their attendants. Many of these women wear a profusion of jewels, their arms and ankles are positively loaded with bangles and charms set with precious stones, and their hair is dressed with strings of pearls and diamond ornaments, to the value of from £1,500 to £2,000.



A LANCING IN A PERSIAN PALACE—FROM A PAINTING BY AUGUSTE BLUETT.



PROCESSION OF THE PLINIPOTENTIARIES, AND CEREMONY OF SIGNING THE TREATY OF TIEN-SIN.—[FROM A SKETCH BY M. ROUX.]

THE CHINESE TREATY.

THE engraving on the preceding page completes our series of illustrations in connection with the signature of the Tien-tsin Treaty. After the accounts that have appeared in former impressions of the "Illustrated Times," it is unnecessary that we should amplify on the subject now. M. Roux, who was present at the ceremony, and to whom we are indebted for the sketch, tells us in his communication, that amongst the compliments exchanged between the high functionaries was the following, emanating from the Chinese Commissioners: "May peace endure between us ten thousand times ten thousand years." We can only re-echo the wish expressed in the flowery language of its Celestial exponent.

IRELAND.

SMITH O'BRIEN IN IRELAND.—Mr. Smith O'Brien seems to have again taken the field. The ex-leader of Young Ireland is (or lately was) in Clonmel, where he has been received with all due honours by his many admirers in the capital of South Tipperary. On Thursday week he was "addressed" by the members of the liberal news-room, and in return Mr. O'Brien favoured them with a speech of the old dimensions, in which he gave a succinct history of his varied political life. Mr. Smith O'Brien has written to the editor of the "Nation" as follows:—"In answer to your inquiry I have no hesitation in authorising you to say that I do not belong to any secret society; and, more, that though convicted of what was called high treason by the expounders of British law, but of what I still venture to think was patriotic duty, I never belonged to a secret society. I hope you will lose no time in cautioning the Nationalists of Ireland against connection with such societies. Either through indiscretion or through treachery the secrets of such associations become known almost immediately to the Government, and furnish a pretext for invasions upon public liberty. I do not think it is at all probable that I shall ever invite my fellow-countrymen to connect themselves with me in any proceeding which requires concealment."

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF A CLERGYMAN.—The report that the Rev. A. Nixon, of Falcarragh, Donegal, had been shot, is confirmed. In company with Mrs. and Miss Nixon, he was proceeding homeward in a covered car, after officiating at divine service, when he was met quite close to his carriage by three persons, dressed like women, one of whom seized the horse by the bit, whilst another proceeded towards the window of the car, which was open, and, aiming a pistol at Mr. Nixon's head, lodged its contents in the jaw of the unfortunate gentleman. The wounds are not fatal; but he is unable to speak, communicating his ideas only by signs and by writing. Some slugs were subsequently found in Mrs. Nixon's bonnet. The ruffians ran off towards Muckish mountain. A bailiff in the employment of Mr. Nixon is said to have followed them for some distance, but on coming up with them one of the men turned, and, presenting a pistol, declared he would have his life if he came a step farther. The steward then desisted, and the fellows got off.

THE GALWAY PACKET STATION.—A few days since, Mr. Seymour Clarke and Mr. Walter Leath, of the Great Northern Railway Company of England, and Mr. M. E. Wilkinson, manager of the London and Sheffield Railway, arrived in Galway, with a view of seeing and judging for themselves of the commercial capabilities of this port. The project of starting a rival port on the Shannon, at Foynes, seems to have been abandoned; whereas the experiment at Galway promises more and more to be successful.

SCOTLAND.

THE NAVIGATION LAWS.—Montrose and its representative (Mr. Baxter) have been in conference, not on a Reform Bill, but on some counteraction to a past Reform Bill. The shipowners of Montrose say that, under the repeal of the Navigation Laws, the whole shipping interest is deprived of profits by foreign competition, without reciprocity. They do not ask for re-enactment of those laws; they hint rather than demand a wish that our Government should use more strenuous efforts to obtain reciprocal advantages from foreign countries, whose shipping we admit without any return on their part; and their practical claim at present resolves itself into a demand for relief from various taxes, dues, and restrictive regulations,—not omitting some, such as the carrying of lights, which are absolutely necessary for the safe discipline of our largely-frequented highways of water. Falling in with Mr. Baxter's suggestion, they have agreed to invite a conference of shipowners in London; and we shall then learn how far these complaints and opinions are general.

THE PROVINCES.

FAMILY ARRANGEMENTS.—Some years ago, a man named Collins was married to a woman at Fisherton Church, Salisbury. For being concerned in some machine riots, Collins was transported within a few weeks of the birth of his daughter. A short time after Collins's banishment, his wife married another man named Kemish. When Collins's daughter had grown up to womanhood, Kemish took a fancy to her, and by agreement with the mother, who had for years been styled Mrs. Kemish, he married the daughter at the same church at which the mother had been married to Collins; and at the same time and place the mother, Mrs. Collins, alias Kemish, was actually married to a man named Pitt; so that the woman Collins has married three men—Collins, Kemish, and Pitt; and Kemish has married both mother and daughter. Pitt was ignorant of the antecedents of the parties, it appears. Kemish and the woman Pitt, Kemish, or Collins, are to be tried at the next assizes.

CHURCH RATES.—THE OPINIONS OF THE CLERGY.—The clergy of the Archdeaconry of Ely held a meeting, last week, on Church Rates. Resolutions were adopted to the effect that, wherever a national church existed, it was the duty of the nation to maintain churches for the due celebration of Divine worship according to the rites of the Established Church, for the benefit of the poor as well as the rich; and that from the first establishment of Christianity in England, provision had been made for such maintenance by means of a rate on property; that the abolition of church rates without an equivalent would be contrary to the principles of equity and justice, and subversive of the implied contract between Church and State; but that for the sake of peace, the members of the Church should be willing to concede that the application of church rates should in future be confined to the maintenance of the fabrics, their internal fittings, and the fences of churchyards—provided means be adopted by the Legislature for enforcing the payment of a certain annual rate on property, sufficient to meet the requirements for such purposes. A committee was appointed to draw up petitions in accordance with these views, and a subscription was made to defray the incidental expenses.

EXTRAORDINARY ACCIDENT.—As Mr. E. S. Kearsley, of Bolton, was hunting near Wigan, he jumped his horse at some rails on to the bank of a colliery railway, when the animal's hind legs went through some old rotten timber, grown over with grass, which concealed the mouth of an old colliery shaft. For a few seconds the noble steed struggled desperately to obtain a firm footing, but he was unable to do so, and at last, a portion of the surface embankment giving way, he fell backwards to the bottom of the pit, and was killed on the spot. Most miraculously, Mr. Kearsley himself escaped. He adroitly managed to alight from his horse over his hind-quarters, and succeeded in obtaining a solid footing one single instant before the animal fell and was killed.

SUPPOSED MURDER AND HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—A man named Beverley was on Saturday night found lying on the turnpike road near Halifax so much injured that he died early next morning. There is reason to believe that he was robbed of a considerable sum of money and seriously maltreated by two men, not yet in custody.

LOST ON THE HILLS.—A lady, resident in Worthing, left her home on Wednesday, of last week, as it was supposed, to visit some relations. Evening set in, the lady did not return, messengers were sent in search of her, and it was found that a person answering the description of the unhappy lady had been traced to Cissbury, one of the chain of hills forming the South Downs. Search was made in this direction during the whole night unsuccessfully. Her brothers were telegraphed for from London; and with several police-constables all started in search. The second night the poor lady and her pursuers remained on the hills, or in that locality, without meeting each other. On the Friday morning, a woman, in passing a pond at Rustington, about eight miles from Worthing, saw the poor creature lying in an exhausted state at the water's edge, her clothes saturated with water. The unhappy lady had been wandering about in a deranged state for two days and two nights without food or shelter.

FORGERY AT WIGAN.—John Pollard, the secretary of the Wigan Union Benefit Society, and proprietor of the "Wigan Examiner," is charged with being concerned in the forgery of certain transfer scrip certificates belonging to that society. The cases already investigated, go to show that upwards of £1,000 have been misappropriated by such practices.

GAROTT ROBBERY IN LEEDES.—Thomas Stephenson, a working man, about fifty years of age, was seized by three men in Park Place, Leeds, thrown down, and robbed of a new coat (which he was taking home to the owner), four pennyworth of copper, and a knife. The poor fellow was rendered insensible by the ill usage he received.

MR. BRIGHT AT BIRMINGHAM.

THE banquet given to Mr. Bright at Birmingham on Friday evening (the 29th ult.) in the Birmingham Town-hall, elicited a second speech from that gentleman.

He began by declaring that he had promulgated no views which were not upheld by the best and most revered names in the history of England; particularly citing Sir Robert Walpole, Charles James Fox, Earl Grey, who came into office to carry out "peace, retrenchment, and reform;" and Sir Robert Peel, who on the very day of his lamented death made a speech in which he describes himself in saying, "If I am not mistaken, I have made a speech of peace—a speech of peace."

"I appeal to this audience, to every man who knows anything of the views and policy of the Liberal party in past years, whether it is not the fact that up to 1832, and indeed to a much later period, probably to the year 1850, those sentiments of Sir Robert Walpole, of Mr. Fox, of Earl Grey, and of Sir Robert Peel—the sentiments which I in humble mode have promulgated—were not received unanimously by the Liberal party as their fixed and unchangeable creed. But I am not afraid to acknowledge that I do avow—that I do freely condemn and denounce, the greater portion of the foreign policy which is practised and adhered to by the Government of this country."

The glorious revolution, which put a bit in the mouth of the Monarch, also enthroned the great territorial families; and they invented the policy which has cost so much to the industry of this country—a policy of wars "to maintain the liberties of Europe," there were wars "to support the Protestant interest," and there were many wars to preserve our old friend, "the balance of power."

"We have been at war since that time, I believe, with, for, and against every considerable nation in Europe. We fought to prevent France and Spain coming under the sceptre of our monarch, although, if we had not fought, it would have been impossible in the course of things that they should have become so united. We fought to maintain the Italian provinces in connection with the House of Austria. We fought to put down the supremacy of Napoleon Bonaparte, and the Minister who was employed by this country at Vienna after the great war, when it was determined that Bonaparte should ever again sit on the throne of France, was the very man to make an alliance with another Bonaparte for the purpose of carrying on a war to prevent the supremacy of the late Emperor of Russia. And what are the results? Europe is not this moment, so far as I know, speaking of it broadly, and making allowance for certain improvements in its general civilisation, more free politically, than it was before. The balance of power is like the perpetual motion. I believe I understate the sum if I say that in the pursuit of this 'Will-o'-the-Wisp'—this liberty of Europe—this balance of power—there has been spent from the industry of the people of this small island within that period no less a sum than 2,000 millions sterling. I confess I cannot myself even imagine how much 2,000 millions sterling really is; I therefore shall not attempt to make you comprehend it. It is, I presume, something like those vast astronomical distances with which late astronomical science has made us familiar, but of which, however familiar, we know no more about than we did before. When I try to think of that 2,000 millions there is a sort of vision passes before my mind's eye, and I see our peasant labourers—I see them delve, and plough, and sow, and reap, and sweat beneath the summer's sun, and shrink and grow prematurely old before the winter's blasts. I see our noble mechanic, with his manly countenance and matchless skill—I see him at his work. I see one of the workers in our factories in the north—a woman or girl—it may be, as many of them are, gentle and good as your own sisters and daughters. I see her intent upon the spindle, whose revolutions are so rapid that the eye altogether fails to detect them. I see her winding the alternating flight of the wondrous shuttle. I turn again to another portion of the population, and I see the man who 'plunged in mines forgets a sun was made,' and who dies from the secret chambers of the earth the elements of the riches and greatness of my country. When I see all this, there is something in the mass of produce and wealth which I am no more able to comprehend than I am to comprehend the 2,000 millions sterling of which I have spoken. But this I know, that an erring and fatal policy of the Government, and of opinion, which comes with a hand of mischief, and takes away, in some cases, one-half, and I believe almost universally one-third, of all the produce of this industry which God intended should fertilise and bless every home in England, but which has been squandered over every part of the earth's surface without any single particle of good result to the people of this kingdom."

Among the tangible results we have the National Debt—which some think an advantage—and a mass of fixed pauperism which astonishes foreign countries.

"Mr. Kinglake, the author of an interesting book on Eastern travel, describing the habits of some acquaintances that he made in the Syrian deserts, says that the jackals of the desert follow their prey in families like the place-hunters of Europe. I will reverse, if you like, the comparison, and say that the great territorial families of England, which were enthroned at the Revolution, have followed their prey like the jackals of the desert. The more you examine this matter, the more you will come to the conclusion which I have arrived at, that this foreign policy, this regard for 'the liberties of Europe,' this care at one time for 'the Protestant interests,' this excessive love for 'the balance of power,' is neither more nor less than a gigantic system of out-door relief for the aristocracy of Great Britain."

Mr. Bright described our entangling treaties,—to maintain Sweden against Russia, to interfere between Denmark and the Duchies, to defend Belgium against Holland, to preserve with Sardinia the balance of power in Europe, to protect the Kingdom of Greece, and the independence and integrity of the Ottoman empire. With what effects? It is not all glory, after all. Glory may be worth something, but it is not always glory. We have had insolvent despatches from Vienna and St. Petersburg; our Ambassadors have been expelled from Madrid and Washington; Naples has defied us. He entered into arguments and figures to show the wastefulness of thus substituting war for trade. The trade with the United States, for example, will not pay for the war to preserve those colonies. Wars to introduce calicoes by cannon, foolish and wretched excuses, are exposed to any man who can understand the simplest rule of arithmetic. The wars may make great states and bring large sums to great statesmen and capitalists; but they also occasion immense waste, to the ruin of the people. After a reference to the Weedon revelation, the speaker continued:—

"I have heard that a gentleman who is one of the most competent men in England to give an opinion, as a great shipowner and a man of business not surpassed by any one, and a man whose word may be relied upon—I have heard that he said, after a long examination of the details of the question, that he dared undertake to do everything that was done, not only for the defence of the country by the navy, but also all those other things which are not done for its defence, and are wholly needless for that purpose, that he would undertake to do all those things by contract for one-half of the estimates which are annually voted."

Mr. Bright then discussed the alliance with France, Cherbourg, and what he treated as the insane far in England of a French invasion.

"I am not about to defend the policy which flowed from that alliance, nor shall I take up your time by making any attack upon it. An alliance was entered into and a war was entered into. English and French soldiers fought on the same field, and they suffered, I fear, from the same neglect. They now lie buried on the bleak heights of the Crimea, and I suppose, except by their mothers, who don't soon forget their children,—I suppose they are mostly forgotten. I have never heard it suggested that the French Government did not behave with the most perfect honour to this Government and this country all through these grave and momentous transactions; but I have heard it stated by those who must know, that nothing could be more honourable, nothing more just, than the conduct of the French Emperor to this Government throughout that struggle. More recently, when the war in China was begun by a Government which I have condemned and denounced in the House of Commons, the Emperor of the French sent his ships and troops to co-operate with us, but I never heard that anything was done there to create a suspicion of a feeling of hostility on his part towards us. The Emperor of the French came to London, and some of those powerful organs who have since taken the line of which I am complaining, did all but invite the people of London to prostrate themselves under the wheels of that chariot which conveyed along our streets the revived Monarchy of France. The Queen of England went to Paris, and was she not received there with as much affection and as much respect as her high position and her honourable character entitle her to? What has occurred since? If there was a momentary unpleasantness, I am quite sure that every impartial man will agree that, under the peculiarly irritating circumstances of the moment, there was at least as much forbearance shown on one side of the Channel as on the other. Then, we have had much said lately about a naval fortification recently completed in France, which has been more than 100 years in progress, which was not devised by the present Emperor of the French, nor by his will. For 100 years great sums had been spent on it, and, at last, like every other great work, it was brought to an end. The English Queen and others were invited over, and many went who were not invited. And yet

in all this, we are told that there is something to create extreme alarm and suspicion, we, who have never fortified any place, who have not a single fort, who have not spent the fortune of a nation almost in the Turkish Islands—*we*, who are doing nothing at all—*we*, in fact, there ever was a nation so perfectly guileless of preparing to do anything to anybody. And what are we to say of a nation which lives under a perpetual delusion, that it is going to be attacked, a nation which is the most contented and the least of the earth, little less than 30,000,000 of people all united under a Government which, though we intend to reform it, we do not think less so, and which has mechanical power and wealth to which no country offers any parallel? I should like to ask you whether these delusions are not, in every way, whether this policy is to be the perpetual policy of England, and whether these results are to go on gathering and gathering until there come some there must inevitably, some do awful catastrophe on our country."

... A Calcutta critic assured me that Rome pursued a similar policy for eight centuries, and that for those eight centuries she remained great. Now, I do not think that examples taken from pagan, sanguinary, and thirsty Rome are proper models for the imitation of a Christian country, nor would I limit my hopes of the greatness of England even to the duration of 800 years."

Mr. Bright alluded to the Corn-laws as examples at once of the apparently hopeless difficulties, the fatal prophecies that beset the course of an established policy, while the sequel has gloriously refuted those forebodings. He wanted to inaugurate a new revolution of opinion, one in which among other changes the great anomaly of such a country having to raise £7,000,000 for its pauper population, and the unhappy condition of a portion of our women, whose husbands and fathers were carried off by war, would be deeply considered.

"I acknowledge it to be the duty of every statesman, acting upon the best opinions and principles of 29 out of every 100 persons in the country, at all times, with all possible moderation, but with all possible energy, to take steps which shall preserve order within and on the continent of this kingdom. But I shall reiterate and denounce the expenditure of vast sums, the engagement of every man, the employment of every ship, and has no object but intermeddling in the affairs of other countries, and endeavouring to extend the boundaries of an empire which is already too large to manage to satisfy the greatest ambition, and I fear is much too large for the highest statesmanship to which any man has yet attained."

He spoke with no irreverence of the Crown, pleaded not that the country should remain without adequate and scientific means of defence, but—

"Palaces, princely castles, great halls, showy mansions, do not make a nation. The nation in every country dwells in the cottage and in the street, and light of your constitution can shine there, unless the beauty of your constitution and the excellence of your statesmanship are printed there in the features and condition of the people, rely upon it you have yet to learn the duties of Government."

Mr. Bright's speech was considered of so much importance that the leading morning journals ran a special train the whole distance in order to bring it up in time for publication next morning. The train moved out of the station at half-past ten, stopping but once on the journey, when the explosion of detonating balls under the carriage-wheels announced that all was not clear ahead. A goods train stopped the way, and, indeed, sixteen trains had to be "shunted" in various parts of the line to leave the track clear for the printing press. The journey, 112 miles, was accomplished in two hours and a half.

MR. SIDNEY HERBERT AT WARMINSTER.

At the opening of the Athenaeum at Warminster, Mr. Sidney Herbert made a speech which has been strongly and animadverted upon by the daily press. Of course, his remarks were chiefly on the subjects of mechanics' institutions. He deprecated the exclusion of any kind of literature, serious or amusing, from the libraries of working men; and said that he highly appreciated the importance of newspaper and periodical literature. But he advocated the system of the anonymous in journalism; which Mr. Bright also pronounced against in his speech last week, and which has been introduced into France with much advantage to another system, mildly called Imperial. Touching on political matters, Mr. Herbert declared himself well satisfied with the present anomalous condition of parties.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE ON PRACTICAL JOKING.

ENSIGN JOHN JAMES SCOTT, of the 47th Regiment, was tried by court-martial at Portsmouth—first, for having, when on the sick report, quitted barrack without leave of the surgeon or commanding officer; and, secondly, for "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman," in entering the room of Ensign Piggett, of the Wexford Militia, upsetting his furniture and utensils, and causing the bedding to take fire. Moreover, he was charged with being "drunk and disorderly in the George Hotel."

The Court found Ensign Scott guilty of the first charge, and of the second also; but with the extraordinary exception of "conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman," and the words, "and caused the bedding to take fire," of which the Court acquitted him. The charge of being "drunk" the Court also declared to be made out, but acquitted him of being "disorderly." The Ensign was accordingly sentenced to be severely reprimanded and to be placed at the bottom of his regimental rank. The sentence was confirmed; but in his general order, announcing this confirmation, the Duke of Cambridge says:—

"His Royal Highness cannot allow the officers of the army to be led astray by a tacit acquiescence in such erroneous opinions as appear to have been entertained by the members of this court-martial. He had hoped that since the publication of the orders by the late Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, the disgraceful habit of practical jokes had been entirely discontinued. Those orders were personally delivered to, and acknowledged by, Ensign Scott, on his first appointment to a commission; his disobedience thereto was, therefore, unbecoming the character of an officer; and to conspire with another for the personal annoyance of a brother officer by entering his room uninvited, to upset his furniture and utensils, and otherwise to disarrange his room, can be designated by no other term than unbecomingly; neither, in the opinion of His Royal Highness, can it be otherwise than disorderly in an officer to be drunk in an hotel, and then and there otherwise to misconduct himself. His Royal Highness considers such conduct to be fitly described by the language of the charge, and he, therefore, recommends courts-martial to check, by adequate punishment, practices which a perseverance in cannot fail to affect the character of the officers of the army as gentlemen."

PRINCE ALFRED GOES TO SEA.—Prince Alfred embarked on Wednesday week as a naval cadet in her Majesty's steamer Euryalus, at Spithead, on his introduction to the service and his first voyage to sea. The Prince, accompanied by the Prince Consort, and his governor on Monday Lieutenant-General, but on Tuesday Second Captain and Brevet-Major Cowell, R.E., arrived at the Clarence Yard, Gosport, at noon. On approaching the Euryalus, that ship manned yards, as did Rear-Admiral T. Hood's Dutch squadron, and a grand general salute followed. The Princes were entertained at luncheon in the State cabin, after which came the leave-taking, and the Euryalus weighed anchor, under steam and sail, for sea. The Prince of Wales, attended by Major Lindsay, also came down to see Prince Alfred off. The parting between the Royal brothers were very affectionate; and we hear that, "The young sailor Prince seemed in the best of spirits, and at once at home with the young gentlemen selected (for no officer has been appointed to the Euryalus, we believe, whose character and merits have not first been submitted for her Majesty's approval), to be his companions de voyage." Prince Alfred will enjoy no immunity from his Royal rank, his outfit is no better nor more extensive than ordinary; his chest is the exact and strict "regulation" article, and, if his servant has a cabin allotted him, the Prince slings his hammock on the lower deck and berths himself therein the same as the other cadets, and with the same chance of "clobbering," though probably not with the like probability of receiving that introductory infliction. The Prince's naval instructor, Lieut. Jolly, now transfers his services to Prince Arthur.

THE PENALTY OF DEMOCRACY.—John Annesley, Esq., of Moreland Lodge, Hants, eldest and only surviving son of Alexander Annesley, Esq., late of Hyde Hall, Hants, Colonel in the Army, and the Marine Parade, Brighton, has recently died childless. Had Mr. Annesley died intestate, his personal estate would have been his nephew, Mr. Ernest Jones, the well-known Chartist leader; but so great was the animosity he entertained for Mr. Jones, on account of the democratic principles of the latter, to utter strangers, thus cutting Mr. Jones off from a fine fortune, which, by every ordinary and customary course, would have come into his hands.

POISONING BY ACCIDENT.

A most extraordinary affair has occurred at Bradford. A seller of lozenges has poisoned several persons; fifteen are already dead, and scores of people throughout the town and neighbourhood have suffered. The following is the story of the affair:—

On Sunday morning two boys, one aged nine and the other aged ten, sons of John Scott and of Elijah Wright, died very suddenly, and their deaths were reported at the police-office. It was at first supposed that they had died from cholera, and no steps were taken in the matter; but during the day a great many other persons were attacked with illness. Inquiry was set afoot, and it was ascertained that they had all partaken of lozenges which they had purchased on Saturday night of a person named Hardaker, who keeps a stall in the market; and who had bought them from a wholesale confectioner named Niel, residing in Stone Street, Manor Row. In the manufacture of lozenges, a composition named "daff" is extensively employed, and about a fortnight ago Mr. Niel purchased 12lbs. of it from a Mr. Hodgson, a shopkeeper. He was served by a young man, Goddard, an assistant to Mr. Hodgson. The latter was ill in bed at the time, and Goddard, who had asked him where the "daff" was kept, went into the cellar, but by mistake brought the arsenic cask instead, and from it weighed 12lbs., which was subsequently mixed with the lozenges, which had been ordered by Hardaker. These facts ascertained, police-officers were sent round their beats to warn people not to use any lozenges they might have purchased on Saturday night; bellmen were sent out, and placards were posted in every part of the town, requesting any persons who might have purchased lozenges to bring them to the police-office. About 36lbs. weight were recovered from Mr. Hardaker, and a considerable quantity was brought in by people who had purchased them.

Next morning (Monday) reports were received from all parts of the town of the fatal effects which had followed from the use of the lozenges, and it is impossible to say yet what may be the extent of the mischief. Goddard was taken before the magistrates on Monday, and released. Hardaker himself ate some of the lozenges, and suffered with other people.

OUR PRINCESS IN BERLIN.—It will interest many of our readers to learn that the Princess Frederick-William of Prussia sedulously cultivates her talents as an artist in her new home. The Princess makes practical use of her skill in drawing in the furnishing and decoration of her residence, and is having a studio fitted up in the new palace in Berlin. Her Royal Highness appears to be a great favourite, and many anecdotes are told to show her kindness.

MR. B. HOLLINS, of the firm of Milton and Co., Stoke-upon-Trent, advocates a "people's park" in that town. If the people will raise £2,000, he will add £300; if £3,000, he will add £1,000.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE UNIVERSITIES.—A feud has broken out between the Royal Commissioners and the University of Cambridge. The Commissioners have submitted to the University the draft of the Bill which proposed for the future governance of the learned body, and Cambridge has rejected the proposition. The chief point of difference, among some few others, is that the Commissioners propose to open the fellowships to the members of all the colleges indiscriminately. In the University, opinion does not appear to be positively unanimous; but rather a general agreement is given against this compulsory fusion, which would abolish the individuality of the colleges. Some who dissent from the views of the majority only desire an enabling Act, by which the colleges, if they pleased, might throw their fellowships open. In the main, Cambridge protests, and insists upon retaining those principal distinctive characters, by which it has been known throughout so many generations.

OXFORD UNION DEBATING SOCIETY.—An unusually large number of members assembled last week to discuss the question of vote by ballot, which was put in the following form by Mr. A. V. Dicey, of Balliol College:—"That it is both just and expedient that vote by ballot should be employed in the election of members of Parliament." The question provoked a spirited discussion. A proposal to "adjourn the house" was negatived without a division. At a late hour the motion was put to the meeting, and lost, the following being the numbers:—Against, thirty-five; for, twelve; majority against, twenty-three.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—At a meeting of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, on Tuesday, the company was dissolved, and liquidators were appointed. It was also resolved that, in the event of the great ship company being formed, the liquidators should be authorised to receive the whole or part of the purchase-money for the Great Eastern in shares.

MELANCHOLY.—At the Marylebone Police-court, on Friday, an extraordinary application was made by Mr. Overton, a member of the Marylebone vestry. He stated that a daughter of his had been engaged as a companion in a gentleman's family, and that the result was her conversion to the Catholic religion. He wished to know whether he could demand the restoration of his daughter and her submission to parental authority. As the young lady was twenty-two years of age, and therefore old enough to judge for herself, the magistrate could not interfere in the matter.

FALSE SIGNALS OF DISTRESS.—Contrary to repeated warning, certain steamers are still in the habit, when off Holyhead, of letting off rockets, showing blue lights, and firing guns, producing great and unfounded alarm of vessels being in distress—a practice which interferes with the arrangements made for sending assistance to shipwrecked mariners. Most fatal consequences must sooner or later arise if such a practice is persisted in; it must be stopped by punishing the offenders.

COLLISION IN THE CHANNEL.—The ship *Palmyra* came into collision with the barque *Ellen Morrison*, off Portland, on Tuesday. The first stroke carried away the barque's bowsprit, and the second time the *Palmyra's* stem ran into the barque's starboard bow. The barque had a valuable cargo; and being ballasted with 200 tons of shingle, it is feared she went down.

ANOTHER LARGE STEAMER DESTROYED BY FIRE.—A heavy loss to the Underwriters at Lloyds' was made known on Wednesday, by the receipt of a telegram from Bremen, announcing the destruction by fire of the *Hudson* steamer, which took place in the port of Bremerhaven. The *Hudson* was a first-class iron paddle steamship, 2,500 tons register, belonging to the Bremen and New York line of mail-packet steamers, and was comparatively a new vessel, having made but two or three trips. She was appointed to take her departure from Bremen on Saturday (to-day), and was partly laden with cargo.

DR. LETHEBY AND THE CITY SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Dr. Letheby, the Medical Officer, has presented to the City Commission of Sewers his report upon various memorials praying for the abolition of the City slaughter-houses. About 6,500 animals are slaughtered weekly. Although the ventilation is good, and the arrangements for cleanliness are all that is practicable, the confinement of the animals, the soaking of their blood into the ground, and other circumstances, create a noxious smell, and necessarily keep up a putrefactive process, detrimental to the meat itself; while many disagreeable trades congregate round the spot, in order to take advantage of the skin, tallow, and other refuse of the slaughter-house. This nuisance is kept up only for the slaughter of about a hundredth part of the meat that is brought to the metropolis; the remainder being killed in the country, and brought up as dead meat. And it is found that the meat thus slaughtered in the country and conveyed to town actually keeps better than that which is brought up alive and slaughtered in London. There are difficulties in immediately abolishing the slaughter-houses; but Dr. Letheby suggested very stringent regulations which are essential to health, and will tend to encourage the removal of the nuisance. The General Purposes Committee resolved, after a due notice, to act accordingly.

AN AUSTRALIAN PASSENGER-SHIP LOST.—There appears to have been some error in the reported loss by fire of a steamer bearing the name of the Eastern City, on the 24th of August. The vessel turns out to be a large sailing-ship, with emigrants, bound to Australia from Liverpool. She is comparatively a new vessel, of 1,222 tons burden, and was the property of Messrs. Baines and Co., the ship-owners, of Liverpool. On the 10th of July she left the Mersey for Melbourne, having on board 180 passengers, 47 men, officers, and crew, and upwards of 1,000 tons of general cargo. The ship made a successful run to the equator, and all went well, when, in the afternoon of the 23rd of August, it was discovered that a fire had broken out in the fore hold. Every effort failed in extinguishing it, and preparations were made for provisioning and launching the boats. The sea, however, was very high, and had the passengers been driven to put off in the boats, there can be little doubt of their fate. But while the prospects of the crew and passengers were most gloomy, and they were almost in despair, a sail came in sight. The transport ship *Merchantman*, from London, with troops for Calcutta, observed the signals of the burning ship, and at once bore down to her aid. With the exception of one man, M'Lean, a steerage passenger, the whole of the passengers and crew of the Eastern City were taken off, and in about four or five hours after they had left, the entire ship was in one mass of fire, the masts went overboard, and she was a blazing wreck. The unfortunate man who perished was a native of Skye. He had been ill for some days, and was below in his berth when the fire was first discovered, and he is supposed to have been suffocated.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY has signified her intention of conferring the Honour of knighthood on Mr. J. T. Smith, the Mayor of Melbourne.

A GREAT METER has just been fixed in St. Paul's Cathedral, to register the gas supplied for the illumination of the dome area from above during the evening services, and the 17th of November. The meter is twenty-two feet in circumference, and will, it is estimated, pass 6,000 cubic feet of gas per hour.

AN EXTENSIVE LANDSLIDE has taken place near Yarmouth, in the Isle of Wight. Such a circumstance has not taken place for many years.

A COMMISSIONER has been appointed to inquire into the state and operations of the Office for the Registry of Deeds in Ireland.

ORDERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED, that, in order to obtain efficient musicians as bandmen for her Majesty's regiments, a bounty of £10 is to be paid to all joining, and a gratuity of £1 to any person bringing an efficient man.

THE REPORT THAT HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES is about to enter the army, is revived. The Colchester Guards is the regiment selected for the illustrious Prince, it appears.

AT JACMET, in Hayti, small-pox prevails to an alarming extent.

M. ERNST, the violinist, is in so delicate a state of health that he has been ordered to Nice to pass the winter.

FOX-HUNTING AT ROME has been stopped by Cardinal Antonelli. British and Roman sportsmen are in despair; and the very large number of persons, who, directly or indirectly, find employment arising out of the hunt, will be thrown into distress. With hunting, racing, cock-fighting, and the Roman Spring Meeting will cease to enliven the picturesque valleys of the Campagna.

THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND COMMITTEE have received a sum approaching half-a-million of money. The total expenditure, up to this time, has been something like £170,000. There remains a balance in hand of £265,160. No doubt this handsome balance will all be needed.

MR. D. NUTT AND MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND NODD have in the press a reprint of the "Valium Greek Testament," by Cardinal Mai, which has lately been published with the "Septuagint" in Rome, though not to be had separately.

MISS AMY SEDGWICK, the popular actress of the Haymarket Theatre, whose serious illness for some time past prevented her appearing on the stage, has bestowed her hand on Dr. Parkes, her medical attendant.

A NEW FEATURE has just been added to the public galleries of the British Museum. Some of the finest and choicest treasures of that jealously-guarded corner of our public institution, called the Print-room, have within the last week been arranged on screens in the lightest and most central part of the King's Library.

HEAVY RAINS having swelled the numerous rivers that fall into the Rhône, in France, the river has overflowed its banks, and much property has been destroyed in consequence. The potteries at Requevaire have been destroyed, and many houses have fallen in.

THE CHELTENHAM MAGISTRATES have fined a young farmer £2 and costs, for kissing a girl on the Alistone Road.

MRS. HOPE SCOTT, grand-daughter of Sir Walter Scott, and daughter of Mr. Lockhart, expired at Edinburgh on Tuesday week. She was married a few years since to Mr. Hope Scott, an eminent barrister, who took the latter surname on his ascending to the Abbotsford estates. Mrs. Scott leaves three children—one an infant.

THE NEW LEGISLATION on the usurpation of titles in France, has necessitated the re-establishment of an old French monarchical institution, called a council, destined to examine and testify the validity of titles. It may become a serious weapon in the hands of the present Government.

LORD DERRY has granted a pension of £50 per annum to Mr. Peter Whittle, author of a "History of Preston," and other antiquarian works.

AT A BANQUET given to M. de Lesseps, at Marseilles, last week, that gentleman stated, in reply to a toast, "That the works of the Suez Canal will commence in three months, and that the canal shall be opened in three years."

THERE IS NOW NOT ABOVE TEN MILES of the Egyptian Railway unfinished. When it is completed, the expense of conveying the India and China mails will be reduced £20,000 a year. The sum paid by the Admiralty for conveying sea-borne mails is at the present time £1,040,940 a year.

THE TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION between Dover and Calais is interrupted—probably through some ship dragging her anchor.

FROM ST. HELENA, we learn that four slaves had been taken in there by her Majesty's cruisers, all of which were condemned.

THE LAND REGULATIONS of the Governor-General of Natal have been disallowed by the Home Office. Crown lands are no longer to be granted at an annual quit-rent of one farthing per acre. They are to be sold by public auction at the upset price of 4s. per acre.

A "CANARD" was lately current in Paris, that Walker, the American filibuster, was a Frenchman, formerly an aide-de-camp of one of the younger sons of Louis Philippe, who had to leave France in 1847 for cheating at cards.

LAMARTINE'S estate of Milly has been sold to a landed proprietor at Bourdeaux for 675,000 francs. The estate is large, and the vineyards extensive, but the house is small and inconvenient.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA has allowed Baron Lionel de Rothschild to resign the post of Austrian Consul-General of London, and has expressed satisfaction with his long and faithful services. Baron Anthony de Rothschild is appointed to the vacant place.

THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSERVATIVE CLUB OF GLASGOW UNIVERSITY have agreed to bring forward the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli as a candidate for the office of Lord Rector, as successor to Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton. The Liberal Association, we hear, are likely to nominate either Mr. Dickens or Mr. Thackeray.

THE FIRST EDITION of Mr. Carlyle's work, "Frederick the Great," is exhausted; a new edition is promised in a few days.

POSTAL COMMUNICATION is about to be established between Weymouth and Cherbourg.

UPWARDS OF TWO THOUSAND OF THE GERMAN LEGIONARIES, who, at the close of the late war, were located at the Cape of Good Hope, have volunteered to serve in the Indian army.

SIR JAMES BROOKE is rapidly recovering from the attack of paralysis. He is at present at Northwood House, near Manchester.

A HEBREW TRANSLATION of Eugène Sue's "Mystères de Paris" has just appeared in Wilna, Poland.

A PAMPHLET from the pen of M. Guizot, in answer to the Marquis of Normanby's book, is announced.

MR. W. BLAGROVE, a well-known member of the best London bands, a talented performer, and brother of our most eminent English violinist, died suddenly, just as he was about entering Drury Lane Theatre to fulfil his duties in the orchestra, on Monday night.

TWO VOLUMES OF MEMOIRS, or "Souvenirs," by St. Marc Girardin, are announced for publication.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR W. REID, K.C.B., late Governor of Malta, and author of the "Law of Storms," is dead.

THE AUSTRIANS are not lucky with their navy. The first vessel of the line constructed by them at Pola, the *Cesar*, was terribly damaged the other day in launching, so that she has almost to be rebuilt. The Archduke, who was present at the ceremony, left Pola the same evening, much annoyed.

A RECENT ARRIVAL OF SIX VESSELS from the Baltic brought to England the great quantity of 3,000 quarters of wheat.

SNOW HAS ALREADY FALLEN, to the depth of five or six inches, in some parts of the North—and that where corn was still standing.

MR. BAYLEY'S RETURN FOR MANCHESTER is almost certain. Mr. Frederick Peel has been talked of, and Mr. Fairbairn at one time evinced a disposition to stand; he has retired, however. A proposition was made to Lord Stanley to retire from King's Lynn, and contest the Manchester seat; the proposition was declined.

MADAME IDA PFFIFFER expired at Vienna on Wednesday week. She never recovered the effects of her severe fever attack in Madagascar.

THE BURNS FESTIVAL promises to be very successful. A committee has been formed, and many persons of eminence have promised to be present.

THE TREASURERS of the Fund for the erection of a large tabernacle for Mr. Spurgeon, after having paid £5,400 for a piece of ground opposite the Elephant and Castle, Southwark, have between £3,000 and £5,000 left at the banker's. To complete the building, they want some thousands of pounds more.

MR. VANDENHOFF has taken leave of the stage. He played for the last time on Friday week, at Liverpool, in the character of Brutus in Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar," and Wolsey in "Henry VIII."

A WOMAN, eighty years of age, charged her husband (at Plymouth) with desertion. He was only forty years of age, having married her when she was sixty, and he nineteen! He was condemned to provide for her, of course.

CO-FISHERY ON THE DOGGER BANK.

THE engraving on the following page is the first of a series which we have prepared for the purpose of illustrating the subject of the fisheries of Great Britain. The engravings have, in all cases, been taken from correct drawings, made from nature expressly for this purpose. Each engraving will be accompanied by a description of the manner in which the practical business of the fisherman is carried on; the vessel and gear he uses, and the locality where he prosecutes his arduous calling.

There are few subjects more interesting or important to an Englishman than that of the British fisheries, whether we regard the large amount of capital embarked in them, the great value of the fish as an important article of food, especially to the poorer classes, or consider it nationally as the great nursery of British seamen, from whence both the merchant and the Royal navies draw the largest number of their best hands.

We purpose illustrating the taking of each description of fish in turn, and commence with the cod-fishery, as being one of the most important.

Cod-fishing is practised by vessels hailing from nearly every important seaport in Great Britain; but the largest fleet, and best equipped, perhaps, sail from the river Thames. They belong either to Gravesend, Greenwich, or Barking. The latter place is exclusively a North Sea fishery port, a large and valuable fleet of vessels being owned by the inhabitants. We shall have occasion to describe more particularly the Barking fleet in a future article.

Cod-fish is caught all over the North Sea, but the finest descriptions are taken in what is called the lower North Sea, that is, between the Shetland Isles and the Coast of Norway; the fish, however, increase in size and are still more numerous farther northwards, and great quantities are taken by fishermen of all nations on the northern banks, and right up to Baffin's Bay and the Coast of Labrador.

The great Dogger is a bank of sand and broken shells, extending right across the North Sea, between Flamborough Head and the Horns of Jutland, on the coast of Denmark. This has always been a celebrated fishing-ground for many descriptions of fish, particularly cod. There are several other fishing-grounds between the Dogger bank and the Dutch coast that are much frequented both by Dutch and English fishermen.

In the winter months, numbers of small vessels sail from the Thames and other ports on the North Sea, and fish off the coast with long lines, taking cod, whittings, haddocks, &c., but the fish there taken is not equal in size or quality to that captured by the large smacks on the more distant stations.

The vessels engaged in the regular cod-fishery are large smacks, varying in size from 50 to 150 tons burden; they are very strongly built, and must be capable of withstanding the heaviest gales. Each vessel is provided with what is called a well; that is, a space is partitioned off in the centre of the vessel by strong bulk-heads of timber, and made perfectly water-tight; a number of holes are bored in the floor of this apartment, which is at the bottom of the vessel, and the water is allowed to circulate freely in and out, as the vessel moves through it; into this well the fish are placed when caught, and kept alive until the smack returns home.

The crew consists of from eight to twelve hands, including the master and three or four boys and apprentices.

The vessel is found in provisions and stores of all kinds by the owner, the master only taking any share in the success of the voyage; the other hands receive fixed wages. They are absent generally from six to eight weeks at a time.

The vessel having arrived at the fishing-ground, proceeds to fish in different ways, according to the weather and the locality. Cod and some other descriptions of fish—as whittings, haddocks, &c.—are always taken by what is termed hand-lining or long-lining. These lines are of immense length, and have attached to them, by short pieces of line, several hundreds of hooks, each hook being baited with baits brought out in the vessel. Winkles and lampreys are favourite fishing baits; the whelks are shell-fish caught about Whitstable, in the Swale, and round the Isle of Sheppey; the lampreys are caught high up the Thames, at Teddington.

The lines are laid out in trays of several miles in length, and are paid out and hauled in by hand, either from the vessel, or from a boat, (which is the ordinary plan). When the fishing is done from the smack's boat, it is often a work of great danger. Three or four hands get into the boat and proceed to pay out and haul in the lines. As the fish are taken from the hooks, they are placed in the bottom of the boat, but as they would immediately die if kept without water, the plug is taken out of the boat's bottom and the water allowed to enter and rise in the boat, until the fish is covered; and as the fish would not live in this water unless it was quickly changed, one hand has to keep bailing out the water at the same rate as it enters through the plug-hole. In time the fish accumulate, and the boat gets deep and in danger of sinking—in fact, the sea does sometimes break over the boat, and lines, fishermen, and fish are all afloat in the sea together. It is by no means an uncommon thing for lives to be lost on these occasions. Previous to the fish being placed in the well, it is necessary to prick them through under the fin—they would not else live in the well.

When the fish that have been taken are intended to be sent to market in a fresh state, the vessel, having taken a sufficient quantity, proceeds to her market, the cod-fish swimming about in the well in a healthy state; as the motion of the vessel through the water continually changes it. Should the market be Billingsgate, the smack proceeds up the Thames as far as the water is sufficiently clean and salt to keep the fish alive; this point is generally a little above or below Gravesend.

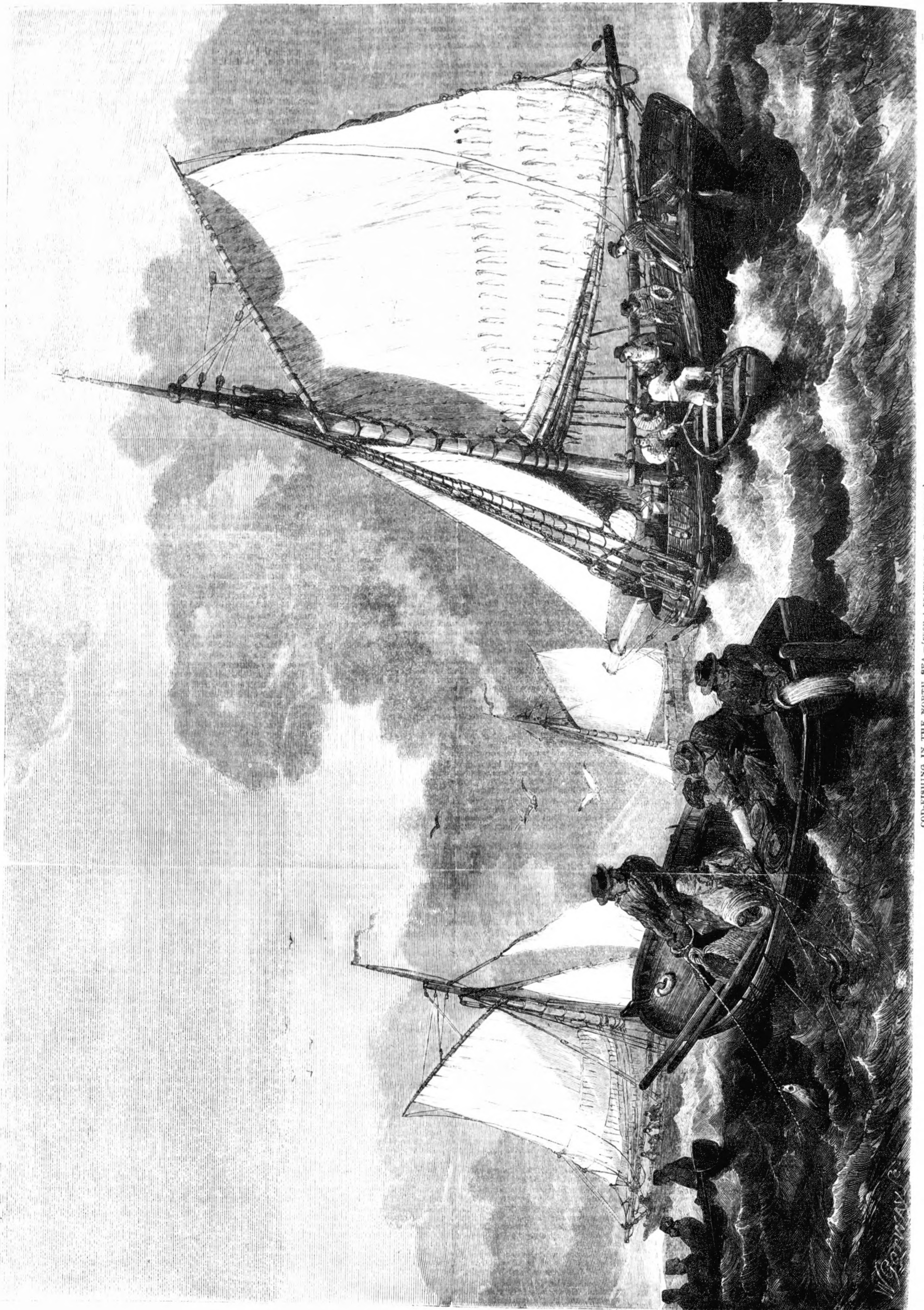
To prevent the market being glutted by the arrival of fish in too large quantities, the vessel remains here several days, sending up a supply each day by hatch-boats, which are fast sailing-boats, of about fifteen tons burden, built expressly for this work, or in smaller boats which are rowed up.

For cod-fish to be in perfection, it is necessary that it should crimp—that is, it should contract when cut with a knife crossways; by contracting it causes the parts cut to fly apart, and expose the flesh of the muscles. Good cod-fish is generally sold out or crimped in this manner. Now, unless the fish is killed, it would not crimp; it is therefore killed immediately it is taken out of the well. This is done generally by the boys, with a wooden mallet, striking the fish (the moment it is taken out of the well) between the eyes, crushing the skull at that point. Fish that have been taken from the well dead are very inferior to the crimped cod, both in appearance and flavour.

If the fish taken at sea be intended to be sold as salt fish, the vessel carries out with her a large quantity of salt, and as the cod are taken, they clean and salt them at once. The vessels engaged in this business remain at sea a much longer time, and fish at much greater distances from home, than those which carry them fresh to market.

Many thousands of fine fish are taken in one voyage by these vessels, and when brought home, are sold to the retail dealers. At certain times of the year, in nearly all the ports between Ramsgate and the Land's-End, smart little hatch-boats, from the Thames, may be found lying idly, with a basket hoisted to the mast-head; this is a signal that they have salt fish for sale, which they have purchased from the cod smacks, and are profitably carrying on business, by retailing it out at per pound to the country people; in this way, they proceed from port to port until their cargoes are sold out.

A DINNER A LA CHINOISE.—Prince Napoleon a few days ago gave a grand dinner, at which several dishes were Chinese; some of the wine drunk was from Siam (having been sent by one of the kings of that country to his Imperial Highness), and one of the guests was a Chinese mandarin. Among the dishes were swallows' nests, cooked in the Nankin mode; fins of a shark fried; olothuries à la mandarine; the interior of a sturgeon à l'octogonaire, aux rondelles de bambou; olothuries in salad, with pheasant jelly; rice des immortels; fowl with Japanese curry; spinage with balichao, which was much esteemed at Rome under Augustus; rice in Chinese fashion; ordinary India curry, &c.



COD-FISHING IN THE NORTH SEA.—(FROM A DRAWING BY G. H. ANDREWS.)



HANNIBAL CROSSING THE ALPS.—[FROM THE PICTURE BY J. M. W. TURNER, R.A., IN THE COLLECTION AT MANLYBOROUGH HOUSE.]

HANNIBAL CROSSING THE ALPS.

ONE of Mr. Turner's most surprising and successful works is reproduced on the preceding page. Hannibal crossing the Alps is the ostensible subject of the picture, which, however, is also called, and more nearly is, a Snowstorm. Our engraver has followed the original as closely as, perhaps, it is possible to follow it in mere black and white; into which Turner's works least of all others bear translation. Still the broad and magnificent effects of Turner's colouring, and even its delicacy, as well as the grandeur of the conception, is more than indicated by our engraving: which we leave to tell its own story, and to engage the reader on its own merits.

The large and elaborately-engraved
MAPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, AND OF LONDON AND ITS ENVIRONS.
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THE WELCOME GUEST.

A New Illustrated Weekly Magazine for family reading, by the writers and artists of the "Illustrated Times," amusing in tone, varied in character, rich in illustration, elegant in appearance, and economical in price. Twenty-Five Numbers are already published, price One Penny each. Five Monthly Parts are issued, price 5d. or 6d. each.

SIR E. LANDSEER'S RETURN FROM HAWKING.

A highly-finished Engraving of the above celebrated Work of Art was issued with the "Illustrated Times" for October 2. Size 20 inches by 14 inches. Price of the Newspaper and Plate, which are still on sale, 4d. or free by post, Five Stamps.

Four copies or more of the Engraving, "Return from Hawking," with the "Illustrated Times" of October 2, will be sent from the Office, packed without folding the Plate, to any part of the United Kingdom, at 5d. per copy.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1858.

THE CHINESE PIRATES.

We are afraid—from the Admiralty despatches published this week—that the Aborigines Protection Society will have to look sharply about it. We have been at our old game again in the Eastern Seas. They are haunted, as all the world knows, by a body of natives, who, in the exercise of what they consider their rights, rob, plunder, and massacre wherever they get a chance. If being savages is a claim on the civilised world, they have it in perfection; and from their own point of view, are undoubtedly in the right. Yet these primitive folk are being blown up and dispersed by British guns! Their little peculiarities are rudely assailed. The sturdy *Staunch*—the pertinacious *Plover*, &c., &c., have sunk and destroyed their craft. We can fancy the indignation of those lovers of their kind who embrace the whole *genus homo*—and who, somehow, are never without pity, except when a British merchant-ship is gutted—at the news.

One reason why we dwell on any naval exploits with pleasure is, that our navy so rarely now-a-days gets its chance. The story on this occasion carries us back to older times. Take the case of the gun-boat *Staunch*, to begin with, and see how (dealing with an ignoble, yet mischievous, enemy) it recalls to one, through its commander's narrative, the pages of James's "Naval History." It is eight in the morning; she is lying off an island, when the news comes that three junks have been "plundering a village," and are now rounding a neighbouring point. Off steams the *Staunch*, and is received with a smart fire, by a very superior force. She has not her "long gun" in her at the time; but blazing away with the two howitzers, she resolves to close, and "board." She shoots alongside the chief junk, in a cloud of smoke—those unsavoury weapons of war known as "stink-pots" being freely employed against her—and proceeds to lash the vessels together, in spite of a heavy swell. One man—an "able seaman" named Edward George—leaped into the junk at once, and was cut to pieces. She sheered off, but the attack was soon renewed, and two of the junks taken and destroyed. The *Staunch's* only "effective" number of men at the last being "five." We have no hesitation in saying, that this is one of the smartest gunboat actions on record—the circumstances all considered. It affords another proof of the importance of these little vessels, the want of which was so soon felt during the Russian war; and will bring the commanding-officer—Mr. Wildman's name—honourably before the service and the public.

The more extensive operations by the *Surprise*, *Magicienne*, *Inflexible*, *Plover*, and *Algerine*, were not less satisfactory. The *Surprise* first fell in with the pirates in the neighbourhood of the Leman Islands, and destroyed or captured twenty-six. Admiral Seymour then detached the other men-of-war above-mentioned from the anchorage at Hong-Kong; and they searched the coasts thoroughly for a long extent of line, carrying destruction to the pirates wherever they went. Much of the work had to be done on shore, where these miscreants regularly establish stockades and defences. In several cases, they got away inland beyond dispute; but their nests and stores—their centres of mischief—were destroyed far and wide. The summary on the whole is most satisfactory—"one fortified stockade mounting 14 guns, 26 piratical fighting junks, 74 fast row-boats, 236 guns, 372 pirates," having been disposed of. During the cruise they liberated several prisoners from the pirates, and heard from them fearful accounts of the brutal savagery and cruelty practised by these ferocious villains. All civilisation involves some destruction; but animals like these are no more to be pitied than the wild wasps' nest destroyed by an American backwoodsman.

We are now, as has again opened upon us in the case of Japan, bringing these distant regions of the world under the eye and under the ruling influence of Europe. The prospects of trade, of order, of civilisation, of Christianity, are all involved in the result. But all good work is mixed with ugly work. The Puritans who founded America had a terrible job of it with the savages that sought their scalps; and China will not be made available for communication with Europe till she is cleared of the worst features of that outer region of barbarism which seems to enclose, like a skein, whatever is really good inside her. Piracy is one of the great evils which every movement of civilisation has had to fight and to put down. Europe has done it at home, and will do it abroad. We are glad to see, in this croaking age, that when it comes to a question of chasing and fighting, when the chance comes, our sailors chase and fight as well as ever. There are signs that a time is coming

when the whole question of our marine prospects, mercantile as well as naval, will require overhauling; and we are glad that these smart exploits in the Chinese seas have happened in good time to keep up the popularity of the Queen's naval service.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

THIS is the season of the year when Brighton is at its best. It is essentially a Saturday-till-Monday place, a home for the temporary visitor—a dither, not an abiding. A month at Brighton pulls horribly. The broad, sailless, boatless sea—the bright green-verandahed white houses—the glaring red-brick pavement—the one promenade, involving the constant meeting of the same people—the never-ceasing clatter of the equestrian cavaliers—the perpetual dodging among the invalid-chairs—the constant-recurring lacquered moustache of the military, wing-whiskers of the stockbrokers, and noses and jewellery of the Jews, become aggravating and unendurable. You should take your Brighton, as you do your roast pork, occasionally. All those who know what they are about, avoid Brighton in the summer. The heat is insupportable, so are the excursionists—unfortunate people—males in black tail-coats and trousers, with black satin waistcoats, females in gorgeous garments of Tyrian dye, children either obstreperous in glee or maniacal in howling, who come down for eight hours at the sea-side, and whom the entire town yells in despair. They cover every seat on the Esplanade, they fill every boat on the beach, they stand in little knots gazing at the elegantly-attired sinners trooping to play at Roman Catholic worship in the Puseyite temple in West Street, or get between the legs of the more soberly-clad but not one whit less bigoted admirers of Mr. Paul Fosskett; the stoutest Hebrews riding up and down the Cliff in open flies, are stared out of countenance by them, and they make even the riding-master blush at the depth of their admiration. But now they are gone, gone with their luncheon-baskets and stone bottles, and perspiration and happiness, and Brighton, though very full, is unconqueredly genteel. It is astonishing how that strouchool of conventionality never varies for an instant. I can remember it for fifteen years, and there it was last Sunday exactly the same. The same class of young swell leaning against the pillar of the Old Ship's porch and tapping his boots; same class of red-tailed, white-headed old gentlemen, taking his dinner in the coffee-room; same class of Brummagem swell stockbroker, lounging out of the windows, and on the steps of Harrison's, listening to the same man playing tunes on the same bells; the same tight-girthed, well-brushed riding-master, perhaps a little pursier, puller, and more stringy by constant equine manipulation, followed by the same class of Amazon, racing from fat forty to flexible fifteen; the same old George-the-Fourth bean, with the high stiff choker, the curved-brimmed hat, the thin, rickety legs; the same oilskin-batted, blue-jerseyed swimming-masters at Brill's; the same fat Germans, and sharp-faced Greeks, and stuck-up English merchants, all good money and bad manners. A last night-place, Brighton, offering nothing but billiard-playing amusement, for the theatre is unpatriotic, and consequently poor, and the "entertainments" are generally of the ghastliest description, but you don't run away from London in search of amusement, but in search of health and quiet, and these you find in the pure bracing sea air, in the plunge at Brill's, in the long lung-inflating muscle-stretching walk over the glorious South Downs.

Last week I adverted briefly to the proposed establishment of a Library and Literary Association among the clerks of the General Post-Office; the progress made within the last few days by the committee renders the subject worthy of further remark. There is no Government establishment with which the general public is so intimately connected as the Post-Office, and there is none so universally misunderstood. The sole notion entertained of the duties of the *employes* resolves itself into an assortment of the letters; the public receive their letters, and they have a fixed and conventional idea that these letters are "sorted," where, how, or why, they don't know, and don't care to know. Treaties with Foreign Powers, contracts with the giants of mercantile marine, and railway companies, belittled and exacting in the highest degree, home arrangements, apparently trivial in themselves, but requiring an amount of diplomatic skill in the carrying out (for everybody is to be served at once, and no one is to complain); the execution of all these duties falls to the lot of the clerks of the Post-Office, and is by them performed in a manner which excites the admiration of those few men who compose the thinking portion of the world. To the unthinking portion, i.e., to our friend the "general public,"—there is but one person employed in St. Martin's-le-Grand, a gentleman of the name of Rowland Hill, who is popularly believed to fetch, sort, stamp, carry, and deliver every letter that is written in the course of twenty-four hours throughout the length and breadth of Britain. Public opinion allows that he is useful and entitled to a salary; but if Johnson's letters are delivered ten minutes later than Johnson thinks is proper, public opinion is down on him at once, and the columns of the "Times" glow with indignation at the disgraceful delay! And yet, curious as it may appear, there are actually men in the establishment who are not mere sorting machines; who have heard of Shakespeare and Tennyson, and to whom the names of Macaulay, Grote, Hallam, and even of Bacon, Froissart, Chaucer, Bunyan, Milton, and Caxton—are not unfamiliar; men who have survived the stigma implied in the facetious appellation of "Walker," and to whom, on their entrance into society, the comic welcome of a double rap on the table has not been a death blow. The most rising of modern novelists, Mr. Anthony Trollope, is one of their *confères*, and they do not blush to own that a gentleman bearing the name of Charles Kemble once formed part of their establishment. The clerks of the General Post-Office then, feeling that they had some claim upon the public, specially upon booksellers and authors, towards the ready diffusion of whose works their daily labours are specially bent, and to whom special indulgences, in the shape of the book-post, &c., have been recently accorded, determined upon the formation of this library, and appealed for support and aid, in the starting of an institution which, once set upon its legs, promises so soon to be self-supporting. The appeal has been promptly answered: first among the authors came Mr. Charles Dickens, ever present where kindness is concerned, and in his profession, his example was immediately followed by the Bishop of London, Bishop Malby, the Dean of Westminster, Sir E. B. Lytton, Professor Ansted, Messrs. Timbs, Trollope, Edgar Bowring, Lover, Smedley, Palgrave Simpson, S. C. Hall, and a host of others; among the publishers, the Proprietors of the "Times," Messrs. Ingram, Rivington, Bohn, W. H. Smith, Quaritch, Virtue; and among the public, the Duke of Argyll, Lords Overstone and Ebury, Messrs. Harry Chester, Gilberts, Charles Kean, &c., &c., have all contributed promptly and handsomely. This is but the first week of the proceedings; indeed, the formal proposition for the establishment of the society will not be made until the general meeting on Saturday. Once a corporate body, the promoters have the promise of the highest patronage in the land, and of aid in many other quarters: there can be no doubt of their ultimate and well-deserved success.

MICHAELMAS TERM commenced on Monday. All the law courts in London were opened with the usual formalities. The Chancery and Common Law Judges, Queen's Counsel, Sergeants-at-Law, and other big wigs, breakfasted with the Lord Chancellor at his house, where the Lord Mayor of London elect was presented, and her Majesty's satisfaction at the choice of the electors was declared.

A GREAT CONFLAGRATION took place in Upper Street, Islington, on Monday. Three houses were burnt down, and another was greatly injured. The inmates of one of the houses had a very narrow escape. Great credit is due to the fire-escape conductor for his activity and courage in rescuing them.

JULES FAVRE has arrived in Paris from a tour through Italy, and brought with him two young ladies of tender age to be educated there. They are the daughters of his late client, Felix Orsini.

JOSEPH CAPEWELL, of Frodswell, has been sent for trial, charged with having placed an iron railway chair on the rails of the North Staffordshire Railway. He admitted that he had done so, "to see if it would run the engine off."

THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES.

SKETCHES AND WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.

MR. GAMBART is the Julien of art! What the great *monstrous* has done for the English public in music, Mr. Gambart is striving to do in the sister science of painting—that is, to awake in his visitors a love for the art, an interest and a regard for its professors. A Beethoven or a Mendelssohn night will attract its master of staunch supporters of the old *maestri*, people who would seem to be seen pushing into the promenade on ordinary occasions; but it is the light and airy compositions of Donizetti and Verdi, the spirit-stirring choruses of Meyerbeer, the fascinating valses and polkas of the waltz-waistcoated composer himself, and of poor König, which call together the bulk of the audience, and pull in the shillings to the treasury. In like manner does Mr. Gambart give us the catching productions of those artists who go in to hit the taste of the print-shop-buying public, the *ad captandum* Derby-day picture, the sketcher of the spirit-stirring "Sherry, sir?" and the soul-ennobling "Did you ring, sir?" clothed with the fashionable pre-Raphaelitism, and ballasted with the works of Stanfield, Philip, Noel Paton, and O'Neill. At all events, we must be grateful to Mr. Gambart for having given us in this dull season of a year an exhibition of pictures, which, to say the least of it, will attract attention, and is deserving of notice.

And first of the *Dieu maîtres*. Those who, following the example of the immortal Mr. Pickwick, always shout with the male, were delighted to find in the collection two original sketches by Mr. Paton from which that artist eventually elaborated his great picture of the "Derby Day." As from the larger and more important of the two large paintings exhibited last May at the Académie was almost identically copied, it will be useless to waste a criticism on it; it has the same blemishes and the same faults as the picture of which it is the prototype. I would therefore wish to direct attention to his other sketch, called "The Crossing Sweeper," supposed to portray an incident in every-day life, a lady at a crossing, harassed by the attendant "Pier Jack," and with the ordinary adjuncts of London street life in the background. I would ask any gentleman whether he could recognise in the over-dressed, laden-faced, tricked-out female figure, a lady, whether her dress, attitude, bearing, and demeanour are such as to think becoming or faithful in a person holding her supposed position in life? And finally, whether the necessary background adjuncts are real renderings or gross caricatures? Did any one ever see such an omnibus conductor as Mr. Frith has depicted, save in the crudest works of George Cruikshank, or the monstrosities of the lamented Onslow? Compare this work of a gentleman signing R.A. after his name, with the roughest wood-blocks of Mr. John Leech, and have the courage to tell Mr. Frith that whatever may be his undoubted excellence, he is utterly deficient in humour, utterly conventional in his treatment of society (with which he has not rubbed shoulders, but merely studied æsthetically), and utterly incompetent as a delineator of every-day English life!

It is refreshing to turn to honest Clarkson Stanfield's "Scene in the Gulf of Salerno" and the "Deep Zuyder Zee," both fresh, natural, and vigorous; to his son's truthful sketch of the "Lake Lugano;" to Mr. San's badly-named but creditably-executed "Little Subject of the Middle Ages;" and to the rich colouring and arch infantile expression to be found in Mr. Philip's "Sissie." And it is more than refreshing to look at the manly vigour, the clear-headedness of conception, and the powerful manipulation of Mr. Henry O'Neill, who sends two pictures, the one an episode in his great picture, "Eastward, Ho!" the other probably a study from the picture on which he is engaged, "The Return of the Troop-Ship," where the husband and wife, so long parted, meet once more. The second subject is scarcely so interesting as the first; we know that the time of trial is over; and for the expression of calm, tranquil, and yet overweening happiness, neither of the heads can compare to those of the figures in Mr. Noel Paton's picture of "Home," exhibited some two years ago. But in both the paintings is earnest and true, bespeaking a mind fully capable of appreciating the intensity of the subject, and a hand fully capable of carrying out the preconceived idea. The mention of Mr. Noel Paton reminds me that he is also a contributor, but his contribution, entitled "The Dead Lady," will scarcely advance the reputation of the artist of "Home" and the Sepoy's "In Memoriam." The repose of the corpse is excellent, so is the pose of the stricken lover by her side, so is the deep purple colour of the sun-tinged evening sky; but there is nothing specially striking in the picture; and Mr. Paton should remember that he is in a more trying position than he who has his spurs to win—he must retain them. Two water-colour sketches (17 and 18), by Mr. Cattermole, are noticeable for the admirable grouping of the bits of armour, forming the most important part of the subject, and for the realistic mediocrity with which the artist has imbued the scenes. Mr. F. Goodall is arraigned for his want of gallantry; his picture of "Mademoiselle Rosa Bonheur Sketching Cattle," shows us the hardest-faced and most leathern-jawed French *passé* provincial lady that a Breton tourist could imagine—the atmosphere and light of the painting are also peculiar to a degree. He has, however, made ample amends in his "Morano Beggar on the Lugano," thoroughly Venetian in tone and colour, and in which the attitude of the alms-giving lady—notably in the action of the arm and bend of the reclining figure—is most natural and irresistible.

I don't care particularly for Mr. Luard's "Picnic Party," though the sun-lit turf, and deep shade under the overhanging tree, are cleverly rendered; so, too, is the attitude of the gentleman reclining at length in the distance and of the sitting girl to whom he is talking. But in my picture experience, I have, as yet, never met any yellow-headed girls, with pinky doll's complexion, like the inane person facing us, nor any smudgy profile such as is enjoyed by her companion. The raised pie between the ladies is evidently a portrait, and the tin-foil round the neck of the champagne bottle has demanded—and was worth—a close study of the original.

The Messrs. Linnell are to the fore. Mr. W. Linnell has evidently been spending his vacation on the coast, and has accordingly produced some particularly ordinary coast scenery—green and brown cliff, &c., with a very bad blue sea. Into the foreground he has thrust some undistinguishable oblong dabs of red with four legs, and near them a few human figures dressed in classical togas. Gazing at this, we at once recognise the subject, "The Companions of Ulysses seizing the oxen sacred to Apollo"—and very like them. Mr. J. T. Linnell contributes a picture, "Moorland," which has been described by some critics as "truly wonderful in colour." With this criticism I am disposed to agree. I never saw anything so wonderful in all my life. But "truly wonderful" does not mean "wonderfully true."

Mr. Holman Hunt's "Fairlight Downs—Sunlight on the Sea," a very small oil painting, is, in point of excellence in manipulative detail, the picture in the collection. The sun studded ripple on the still water has never been so perfectly represented, and the mellowing up and in the foreground, with its shelving banks of turf, is equally true to nature. It is a pity that Mr. Hunt was tempted to introduce a halting and monstrous black quadruped, supposed to be intended for a dog.

Two words more, one of praise to Mr. Oakes for his admirable "Study on the Sea Coast," and one of inquiry to Mr. Simon Solomon as to whether he has ever looked upon anything that was not hideous? For this gentleman, paraphrasing the words of Keats—"A thing of ugliness is a joy for ever," produces such monstrosities as were never seen, and Mr. Solomon may depend upon it that the young man in Longfellow's "Golden Legend" (from which is the quotation), was quite right to look upon the nun, if only to keep his eyes from such awfully hideous angels as the painter has depicted.

THE LOUNGER.

GOLD IN CANADA.—Reports of the discovery of gold in Canada are repeated. The precious ore, it is said, has been found in small quantities upon the Eagle River, near the Desert, about 100 miles from Ottawa city, up the Gatineau River, into which the above-named river empties. It is also said that lead in a pure state, together with several paint deposits, zinc, &c., have been found in the same districts.

THE WOODMAN.

York, which saved Lord and Lady Manchester, but the horses and the
 lion fell into the stony river; the man being lamed, and one of the
 lions having its back broken.

Arts"—is being formed under good auspices.

justice than would be accorded to their parity of the Mussulman cities of the Levant, so that they here flourish and multiply exceedingly. They may be known from the Moors chiefly by their black caps and a generally darker dress; also by the extreme neatness of

their costume; and on Saturdays they come out very strong indeed in kid gloves, and with canes and eye-glasses. Making our way slowly up the Rue de Chartres, we shall be tempted to buy all manner of nick-nacks, embroidered slippers, and palm-leaf besoms; and passers-by are greeted with appeals to 'Monsieur' or 'Madame' to stop and look, or purchase. But we are going to sketch in the old town, so we thread our way through the indescribable mass of confusion, in perpetual danger of an ignominious death from a donkey or a mule, driven full tilt by an Arab, who yells out a word of warning, which you do not understand, and therefore very naturally do not appropriate, till you reach the heart of the old town. Here we begin to go up steep and down passages, and under arches and tunnels, formed by the junction of the upper storeys of the heavy houses, which jut out like those of London in the olden time, supported by sloping rafters, or pierced bodily through the thick walls, till you reach some spot remarkable for its capacities of being sketched; and then you pull out your book, and lean against a wall, or sit on a step, cut your pencils, and begin. But you have reckoned without your host. Quiet and dreamy as looks this secluded alley, with its beautiful architecture, its arched doorways, and tufts of green weeds nestled upon a projection, and shooting up sprays into the deep blue sky, it is yet in the immediate vicinity of the thickest life; and as the rumour spreads that the English are sketching, you will find to your cost what it is to draw in Algiers out of school hours. Out they come—dropping by twos and threes from neighbouring alleys—little imps of light or darkness; shaven-headed Kabyles, with bright, intelligent faces, and keen dark eyes; little Jews; little Moors, in full breeches and cloth jackets, and a little red fez on the head; little Frenchmen, in European costume, and little French soldiers, in infantile uniforms, belonging to some of the military schools; babies just of walking capacities, dressed in any given costume you like, toddle out and plant themselves obstinately before the thing you want to draw, staring at you with Mussulman amazement, not yet educated to the true nonchalant gravity of the race. All these young people jabber round about you in every language born of Babel, and undulate, like lashing waves or the chorus to a Greek play. Fancy this troop reinforced and backed by older passers-by, women, rabbis, coffee-dealers, one-eyed calendars, and soldiers of different regiments, and you have a faint idea of what it is to sit down to sketch amidst the streets of Algiers. I have not mentioned girls, though there are a few little Jewesses in very smart head-dresses, because the surplus of the male population of all ages is one of the most striking features of the streets. It was to take shelter from a scene of the above description that we one day turned into a deep archway containing a stone seat, and into which on the right hand opened a doorway, through which so many veiled women were passing in and out that we inquired of a French gentleman who came out to give us chairs, whether it was not a woman's bath. 'No,' he replied, 'it is Madame Luce's school; go in, she will be very glad to see you.' We went in, and found Madame Luce, an elderly Frenchwoman, surrounded by a large number of Moorish children of the female sex, in a fine old house built strictly in native fashion, with an open marble parade court, and arcades above and below. We saw these children writing French copies, reading French books



MOORISH LADIES IN THE RAIN.

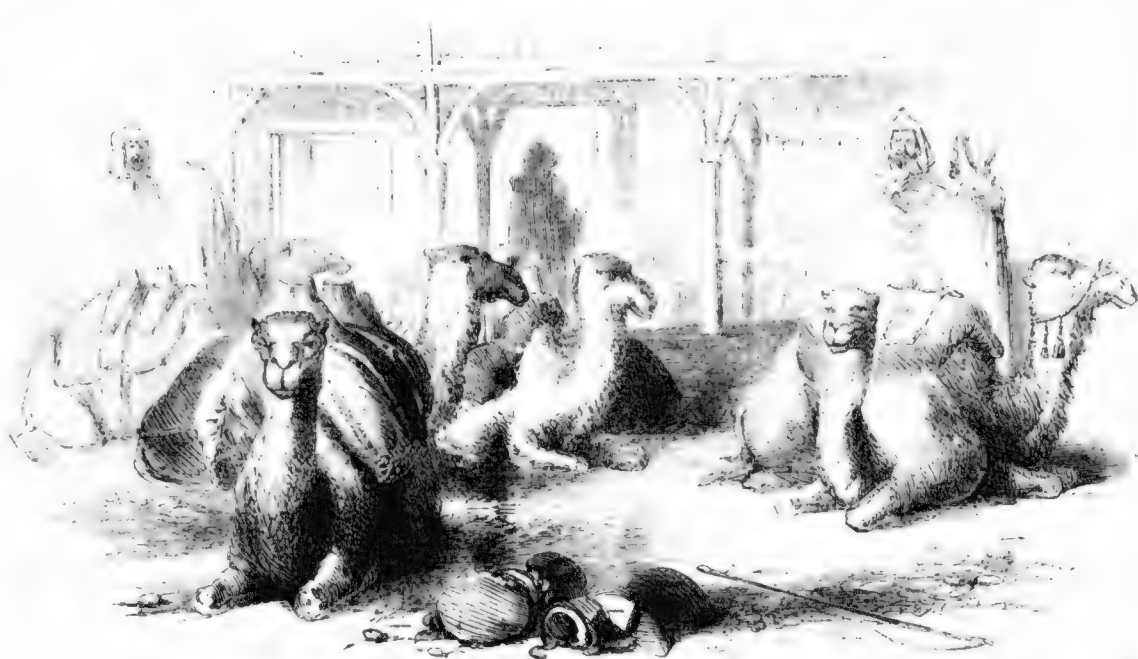


A MARKET BOY.



A SCHOOL IN ALGIERS.

9 wing, working sums—which or branches comprise the extent of their education, and form an enormous advance upon the usual amount of tuition bestowed upon the Moors, which is at zero. In their own homes, they live in entire seclusion, the more respectable ones never going out, unless to the bath, to visit the graves of their relatives, and three or four times a year to the mosque. They are taught neither reading nor writing, and hardly any religion, neither do they practise any female manual art, by which, in case of loss of fortune, they could gain their bread. A more wretched animal existence cannot be conceived; they are sold in marriage at an exceedingly early age, live without hope or faith, or any of the consolations of work; and so on, from generation to generation, without progress, or the hope of any such. It was upon this miserable state of things that Madame Luce, twelve years ago, made the first incursion. She had been a teacher many years when she conceived the idea of trying to bring Moorish women within the pale of civilisation; and her knowledge of Arabic, and intimate acquaintance with many Moorish families, enabled her to take the preliminary



ARAB CARAVANSERAI AT ALGIERS.

step of persuading a few fathers and mothers into intrusting their little girls to her care, under solemn assurances that she would in no way refrain from infecting them with Christian heresy. She threw her own small funds into the war, and besieged the local authorities with applications for public support of the plan. She met with great personal sympathy from Count Guyot, one of the highest functionaries, but the council administration would do nothing for her, though they had established boys' schools at considerable expense. She represented truly that it was useless attempting to teach the boys, while the girls were left in a state of brutal ignorance, to grow up to be mothers, and infect a new generation with Mahometan prejudice and hatred of the conquerors. Finding only deaf ears, she mounted to nearly one hundred, pawned her jewels, and her plate, even a gold thimble, the gift of a friend, and with the proceeds sailed for Paris, where she arrived in Feb. 1846, and immediately sent in a long memorial to the Minister of the War Department, and personally visited the most influential deputies. Here she

more favourable audience. They begged her to return to Algiers to open her school, which she did; and in seven more months from her return in June, 1846, her school was formally adopted by Government, and she herself installed as directress, at a proper salary. Since that time, she has worked her way heroically, sadly thwarted by Louis Napoleon's Government, which desires to throw public instruction into the hands of the religious orders, to whom the Mussulmans are naturally averse to trusting their children. Madame Luce has an Arab scholar, who instructs the children regularly in the Koran and their religious duties, as she very rightly objects to their being brought up with no religion, and prefers Mahometanism, which inculcates belief in the Supreme Being and a sense of moral responsibility, to a mere brutal force. For the rest, the children receive her own sensible instruction, and must regard Christians with infinitely greater toleration than those not brought up under her care. At the Exposition of 1855, Madame Luce received a first and second-class medal for work done in her establishment—gold and silver embroidery; and, in particular, a number of dolls, elaborately dressed in Moorish and Arab costume, many of which were done by a deaf and dumb girl, who was shown to us, and whose delight at the allusion to the dolls was excessive. It was touching and measure, to see this poor child sitting sewing with great earnestness, and a bright smiling face, whose lot, but for Madame Luce, would probably have been one of the most pitiable degradation. We took up the youngest in the whole school, and showed her our watches. A whimsical mortal was Tulira, aged four—hair dyed a dark auburn, as is the custom of female children here, her little legs in full cotton trousers to the knee, bare below, with slippers and anklets, and the small hands and nails painted with henna. She could neither speak nor understand French, but could manage 'Bon jour, monsieur et madame,' very nicely. I gave you a drawing of five of these young mortals, sitting cross-legged at their work, one of whom you will perceive to be of negro extraction. Madame Luce had, at one time, a regular workshop connected with the school, superintended by a regular sewing mistress, in which the scholars earned a good deal of money, by executing sewing for the ladies of Algiers; but this, to her great vexation, has been suppressed by the Government, for no discoverable reason unless to diminish the salary of the mistress. She attaches great importance to the teaching of manual art, as Mussulman women are wholly destitute of the means of earning a respectable livelihood. But we must say adieu to Madame Luce (the history of whose struggles and successes in the cause of education would form a good-sized and very interesting pamphlet, for all those interested in such questions, the number of whom is in England so great) and leave her to her little followers of the Koran, who have cause to bless the day when Providence raised up this devoted woman to their help.

Coming back, we passed by the Arab caravanseraï, where were a number of camels reposing. The caravanseraï is a square enclosure, just outside the town, surrounded by low open sheds; where the goods brought in from the country, and intended for the Arab market, are deposited. I must say that the camel strikes me as a very queer and odd animal, particularly when seen trudging, heavily laden, along a dusty road into the town. Le Capitaine Lamarque, in a treatise upon railways and canals as in future existing in Algeria, says, that when the steam-horse, fed with coal, and emitting flames from its large nostril—when this new quadruped, unknown to Buffon, shall be introduced, then the camels will be restored to that desert which a wise and far-sighted Providence has assigned to them for a country. He speaks on with a whimsical reproach to the absurdities committed by man in Africa: 'Thou art not content with veiling the face of thy men kind, and making them tattoo themselves like old pipes, but thou art dragging the camel from the desert, to make them carry heavy weights up and down the deep slopes of thy mountains; putting upon them thine tribute to the towns, thy wife, and thy daughters; nay, thou hast even dream of making them manoeuvre in squadrons; obedient to the command of corporals and sergeants! Descendant of Job, as he is called, thou desirest to make of thy camel a battle-charger, as he is his horse.'

'Art thou, then, O man, stupider than a cabbage, and muddier than our-croft, that thou wouldst fain set thy ship of the desert afloat upon the mountains? Art thou as deaf as a goose and as blind as a mole, or hast thou, like the snail, eyes at the ends of thy horns? Show thyself, and stand forth before thy camel as one accused before his judge—read, and listen to thy condemnation. Old beast thyself, learn at length to comprehend me. (The camel speaks)—Look at my large feet, those large puffy membranes which terminate them; they are to prevent my sinking into the desert sand, and to enable me to spread them out as a support under my burden: cease then too bruise them against the rocky paths of the mountains, and to send me sliding as if I were teats down the slippery lay of the ravines! Thou makest a mockery of my hump. Miserable man! it is for thee the Throne of the Desert. When thou art perched roosting on the top of the pile supported by my long humps, I enable thee to breathe at ease, in raising thee above the suffocating air which lies close upon the burning sand. To reach this sublime position, thou needest not hop like a bird nor get thee a ladder. Thou sayest "crouch," and I crouch! "get up," and I get up; "get along," and I get along! Thou wouldst make me trot; but halt there! for thou wouldst soon be very sea-sick. I own I don't relish to pace much myself, for I'm not quite as light as a sylph. The Lord God did not intend me for a trotter. I should tumble into the sand and bury myself ankle deep; besides, folks who run are certain to get to a perspiration, and then they are of course thirsty, and must drink, and I should soon empty my store. Besides, I don't get enough to make up for violent exercise. Also, it takes patience to cross the Sahara; now, I go at a foot pace, but I go to the end of my journey without fail. My wife's milk is the only spring which does not dry up in the desert, and thou drinkest there without any hesitation, and very often at the expense of my dear children, I grateful gobble that thou art! Then, having got plenty, thou trikest and abusest me, and sayest I am dirty. It is true I am not as clean as a cat, as caressing as a puppy, nor a graceful gamboller as the dear gazelle; but what of that? My toilette is not the most elegant in the world (Very true.—TRANS.); but I am tidy enough for the desert, and my gravity suits the solitude thereof. I am neither less serious nor less to be respected than a grand duke or a misanthropist, a bear or a hermit; and, finally, thou art no cleaner than I am, for thou dost not brush thyself oftener than thou dost groom me. I spoil my teeth in eating the rough and thorny cactus, and instead of abusing my narrow nostrils, thou wouldst, wert thou not as atheistic as a dog, respect therein the finger of God, who thus prevents the sand from blowing up my nose, and destroying that exquisite sense of smell, which is of more use to thee than to myself. I perceive a little spring half a league off, as easily as thou wouldst a musk cat. My long eyelashes protect my eyes, which are thy cariner's compass in the desert, and, without self-flattery, I believe I can detect the obliterated path a great deal better than thou; and, without setting up for an astronomer-royal, go straight at my goal amid the sea of sand. I gratify my feelings in telling you a little plain truth; and I beg to say that the Creator shows more confidence in me than in thee. He has equipped me perfectly for my work; and if thou hadst just such a wry neck and store-bag, thou wouldst not be prudent enough to lay by plenty of good wine in thy cellar, or wouldst have drunk it all up before going a league, and wouldst be as tipsy as an ass! We have thus allowed the camel to enter his own defence for his own exceeding ugliness, which, we must confess, he does with considerable humour.

The other sketch which I enclose is of the Kabyle boy who brings our provisions to the house, a shaven-headed young gentleman, like all his compere. The Kabyles are, in many ways, more susceptible of civilisation than the Arabs; less nomadic; of a greater aptitude for the manual arts; and so fleet, that they may rival the ancient fabulous nation who were said by Latin historians to inhabit East Africa. People who had by nature only one leg, situated in the middle of their bodies; yet who contrive to get along with the greatest ease.



THE WOODMAN.—(FROM A PICTURE BY WILKINGTON.—SEE PAGE 316.)



ALDERMAN WIFE, LORD MAYOR ELECT.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.—SEE PAGE 315.)

NOVELTY IN PIPE-SMOKING—C
MANILLA TOBACCO, mild and fragrant, with the sp
aroma of the Manila cheroot, and burns freely. 2oz. Packe
Lead, 18. Country Dealers supplied on wholesale terms.

LONDON: Printed by JOHN ROSS, of 148. Fleet Street, at 15, Gough Square, in the Parish of St. Dunstan, in the City of London, and Published by him at 148, Fleet Street, in the Parish and City aforesaid.—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1859.

Map of

IRITLAND.

[illegible]